DC'S KAL-EL-FORNIA LOVE
13+ TEEN
1
DC'S Kal-El-fornia LOVE
CALIFORNIA SUPER
SOARING INTO THE SUMMER!
BCHANG

DC's Kal-El-fornia LOVE

SUPERMAN IN "SEE SPOT FLY"
Written by BRYAN Q. MILLER
Art by GERARDO SANDOVAL
Colors by JÃO CANOLA
Letters by CARLOS M. MANGUAL

JIMMY OLSEN IN "THE GORILLA EX-WIFE OF JIMMY OLSEN"
Written by CHRISTOF BOGACS
Art by JACOBY SALCEDO
Color by FRANCESCO SEGALA
Letters by TAYLOR ESPOSITO

POWER GIRL IN "BEFORE SUNRISE"
Written by JOSHUA HALE FIALKOV
Art by BRUNO ABDIAS
Color by EREN ANGIOLINI
Letters by JOSH REED

BIZARRO IN "AGAINST THE WIND"
Written by JAMES REID
Art by JON MIKEL
Color by IAN HERRING
Letters by LUCAS GATTONI

LOIS LANE IN "BITE OF THE APPLE"
Written by MEGHAN FITZMARTIN
Art and Color by MARCIAL TOLEDANO VARGAS
Letters by ARIANA MAHER

STEEL IN "ACROSS THE ROOM"
Written by BRANDON THOMAS
Art by JUNI BA
Color by CHRIS O'HALLORAN
Letters by ADITYA BIDIKAR

SUPERBOYZ IN "WHO DO YOU BELONG TO"
Written by DAVE WIELGOSZ
Art by JOEY VAZQUEZ
Color by LUIS GUERRERO
Letters by STEVE WANDS

SUPERGIRL IN "SOMETHING IN THE WATER"
Written by GEORGE MANN
Art by TRAVIS MERCER
Color by ANDREW DALHOUSE
Letters by TROY PETERI

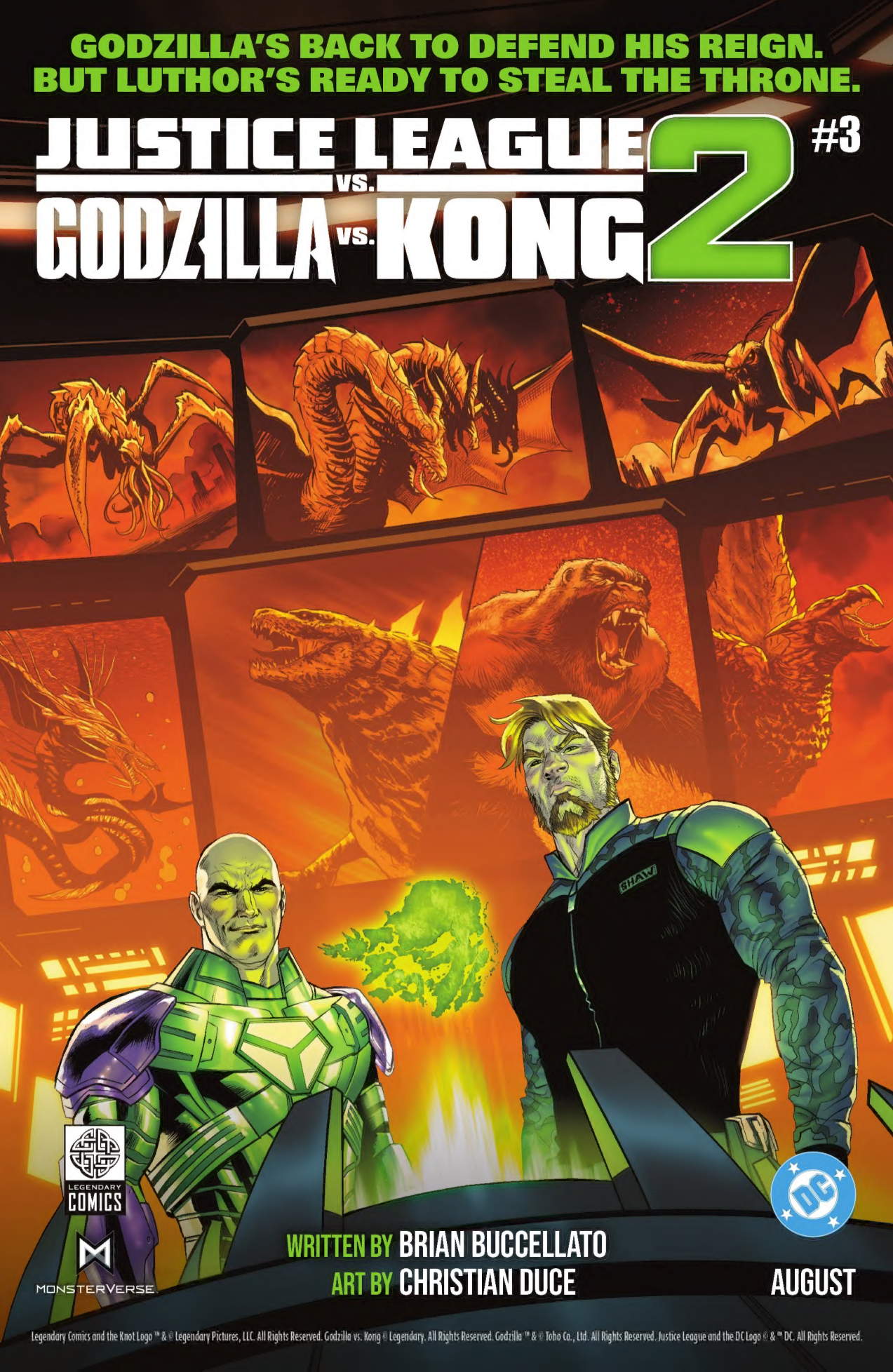
Cover by BERNARD CHANG
Variant Covers by MAHMUD ASRAR and ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ; and MARCIO TAKARA

SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER.
SUPERBOY created by JERRY SIEGEL.
SUPERGIRL based on the characters created by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER.
By special arrangement with the JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

GODZILLA'S BACK TO DEFEND HIS REIGN.
BUT LUTHOR'S READY TO STEAL THE THRONE.

JUSTICE LEAGUE vs. GODZILLA vs. KONG 2

#3



LEGENDARY COMICS

MONSTERVERSE

WRITTEN BY BRIAN BUCCELLATO
ART BY CHRISTIAN DUCE

AUGUST

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THREE DAYS AGO, SOMETHING FELL FROM THE MOON.
A CREATURE, BORN OF SPACE AND DARKNESS.
MASSIVE.
PANICKED.
THEY TOOK SHELTER IN THE DARKEST, QUIETEST PLACE THEY COULD FIND.
THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

...WITH LOIS IN THEIR STOMACH.
BECAUSE OF COURSE THEY DID.
SEE SPOT FLY!
Bryan Q. Miller
Writer
Gerardo Sandoval
Artist
Jão Canola
Colorist
Carlos M. Mangual
Letterer
Andrew Marino
and Katie Kubert
Editors
"COME OUT TO THE COAST," SHE SAID.
"WE'LL HAVE A FEW LAUGHS."
WE HAD EXACTLY ONE BEFORE I HEARD THE SKY ITSELF CRACK OPEN.
THEN, REFLEX AND INSTINCT TOOK OVER.
MINE...
...AND HERS. PUTTING HERSELF AT RISK FOR PEOPLE SHE'D NEVER EVEN MET.
THIS WAY!

I LOVE THAT WOMAN.
WHICH I'LL TELL HER AGAIN AS SOON AS I SEE HER.
WHAT DO WE DO, SUPERMAN?
WE WAIT.
HE SAID TO WAIT, EVERYBODY!
I CLOSE MY EYES AND I HEAR MY FATHERS' WORDS.
BOTH OF THEIRS.
WHAT DO YOU HEAR, CLARK?
WHY DO YOU LISTEN, KAL-EL?
EITHER WAY, THE ANSWER IS THE SAME.

LIFE.
BUT RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY HEARTBEAT I'M ABLE TO HEAR IS MY OWN.
WHUMP WHUMP WHUMP WHUMP
AND IT IS LOUD.
TWENTY MILLION HEARTBEATS AT MY BACK...
...BUT THE ONLY ONE I NEED TO HEAR...
...IS SOMEWHERE OUT THERE.
SO I STEADY MY BREATHING.
RELAX MY MUSCLES.
AND LET THE SUN DO ITS JOB.
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO NEED ALL THE HELP I CAN GET.

THEIR HIDE IS THICK ENOUGH TO MUFFLE THEIR HEARTBEAT, ASSUMING THEY EVEN HAVE ONE.
THICK ENOUGH SKIN, TOO, TO SHIELD THEM FROM RANDOM BLASTS OF RADIATION IN SPACE.
COME OUT, COME OUT WHEREVER YOU ARE...
SO, MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T FIND THEM, EITHER.
BUT IT CAN SEE THEM.
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY...
PEEKABOO.
...THE "SPOT" WHERE THE FISH AREN'T.

IF I DO THIS RIGHT, LOIS IS BACK IN TIME TO CANCEL OUR SUSHI RESERVATION.
IF I DO THIS WRONG...
I WON'T DO IT WRONG.
CLAP
LOW TIDE AT LEAST GIVES ME THE HEAD START I NEED TO BUILD UP SPEED...
WHOOSH
I JUST PRAY THIS ISN'T THE ONE CREATURE IN ALL THE KNOWN GALAXIES THAT DOESN'T HAVE A STOMACH.

VRMMMMMMMMMMM
FSSSHHH
VRMMMMM
FSSSHH
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME, SPOT...
SORRY!

KER-
ACCCK
POW
AND THEN I HEAR IT...
WHUMP WHUMP

HANG ON, KIDS... WE'RE ON OUR WAY BACK UP!
DON'T WORRY...
BLAARG
...I'VE GOT YOU.
BUT WHO'S--
--GOT YOU?!
NEVER GETS OLD
OFFICER?
MOMMY!
WHOOSH
UM... YES, MA'AM?
I NEED TO CANCEL A SUSHI RESERVATION.

NOW...
...WHAT TO DO WITH YOU?
LET'S FIGURE OUT WHERE YOU BELONG.
END.

THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS MANSION OF OSCAR-WINNING DIRECTOR, GUNTHER VON SPITZ.
BRUNA, BRUNA, BRUNA...
CLARK, WHY DOES THAT NAME FEEL SO FAMILIAR?
WELL, PERRY DID FORCEFULLY INSIST WE GET PHOTOS OF HER FOR THE LIFESTYLE SECTION.
Gorilla CHAMPAGNE
HOW COULD I FORGET OUR ASSIGNMENT, ESPECIALLY GIVEN PERRY "INSISTED" AT 110 DECIBELS--
--"IF YOU DON'T COME BACK WITH EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS FOR THE PLANET, DON'T COME BACK AT ALL... BLAH BLAH BLAH!"
YAP YAP
BUT I CAN'T FIGHT THIS FEELING THAT I KNOW THAT NAME FOR ANOTHER REASON...
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING, JIM.
IT'S HER!
THAT DRESS IS STUNNING.
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE CAME.
OH GOD IT'S--

--MY EX-WIFE!
THAT'S RIGHT, DEAR READER, ONE OF JIMMY'S MANY, MANY EXES IS GORILLA ACTRESS BRUNA. SHE'S THE SIMIAN STAR OF SUCH HITS AS SINISTER SAFARI 2, CITIZEN CHIMP AND, OF COURSE, CASABLANC-APE!
SO, JOIN SUPERMAN'S PAL JIMMY OLSEN AND SUPERMAN'S PAL'S-PAL-AND-ACTUALLY-ALSO-SUPERMAN, CLARK KENT, IN A TALE OF AWKWARD EXES WE CALL--
the GORILLA EX-WIFE of JIMMY OLSEN
GRODD. THAT'S NOT GOOD.
THIS IS BAD, REAL BAD.
SURELY, YOU'VE SPOKEN WITH BRUNA SINCE--
"--SINCE I BROKE HER HEART, AND SHE THREW ME OFF A CLIFF?* NOPE."
"NOT EVEN A TEXT?"
"A TEXT?! DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, GORILLAS DON'T UNDERSTAND EMOJIS."
*FROM SUPERMAN'S PAL: JIMMY OLSEN NO.98, 1966!
WELL, PERRY'S COUNTING ON US.
I KNOW, I KNOW.
SO... AREN'T YOU GOING TO ASK HER FOR THE PHOTO?
I MEAN I COULD, BUT I'M SURE SHE'S BUSY BEING THE TOAST OF HOLLYWOOD AND ALL THAT.
SHE DOESN'T LOOK BUSY...

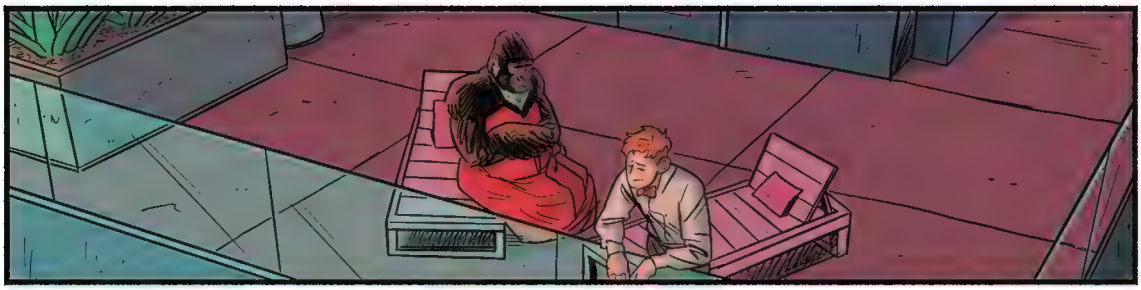
JIMMY OLSEN!
BRAVE OF YOU TO SHOW YOUR FACE HERE. BRAVE AND STUPID.
GRODD?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M BRUNA'S MATE AND MANAGER.
SURELY THAT'S A CONFLICT OF INTEREST--
--I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW GRODD IS A CAPABLE MANAGER AND AN EXTREMELY GENEROUS LOVER!
LOOK, IF YOU CAN AGREE THAT BRUNA WILL GIVE THE PLANET AN EXCLUSIVE PHOTO--
--NO!
GRODD REFUSES TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR HIGHLY BIASED AND ANTI-APE FAKE NEWS MEDIA AGENDA.
SERIOUSLY, JIM? YOU'RE EXPECTING HIM TO BE REASONABLE? SURELY TALKING TO YOUR EX CAN'T BE ANY WORSE THAN GRODD?
WAIT, YOU'VE MET GRODD? SMALL WORLD.
BUT YEAH, YOU'RE SO RIGHT, BUDDY--
MUNCH
--GORILLA GRODD, I INVOKE JUNGLE LAW TO CHALLENGE YOU TO A SERIES OF GORILLA GAMES!
KOFF
MY TERMS ARE SIMPLE: IF I WIN, YOU GIVE ME THAT EXCLUSIVE--
--AND IF I WIN, YOU DIE, JIMMY OLSEN.

AND THIS IS BETTER THAN JUST HAVING AN AWKWARD CONVERSATION WITH YOUR EX HOW?
DON'T WORRY, CLARK, OL' JIMMY HAS A FEW TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVES.
TOOOOOOOOOOOT
GORILLA GAME ONE: THE TIRE THROW.
WINNER: GORILLA GRODD.
GORILLA GAME TWO: THE GRUNTING CONTEST.
WINNER: JIMMY OLSEN.
GORILLA GAME THREE: THE VINE SWING.
WINNER: GORILLA GRODD.
GORILLA GAME FOUR: THE SWIMSUIT PORTION.
WINNER: JIMMY OLSEN!

GORILLA GAME FIVE, A.K.A. THE DECIDER: THE BANANA-EATING CONTEST.
DONE!
FRANK
WINNER: JIMMY OLSEN!
plop
WHAT?!
IS THAT A MINIATURIZED PORTAL TO THE PHANTOM ZONE UP YOUR SLEEVE?
RANK
HOW DID THAT GET THERE, HEH!

HOW DARE YOU MAKE A FOOL OF GRODD!
JIMMY!
KIND OF BUSY HERE, BUD!

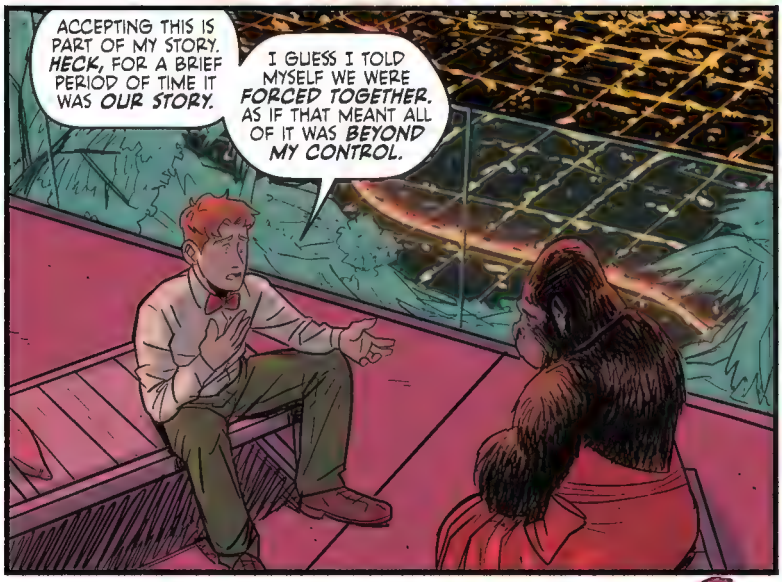
CRUD! CRUD! CRUD!
KRSSH
SMAK
OH HEY, FANCY SEEING YOU HERE. TALK ABOUT A COINCIDENCE, HEH!
BRUNA, LET ME DEAL WITH THIS--
--WHAT DO YOU MEAN I HAVE ANGER ISSUES?!
PFFT...FINE. I'LL LEAVE YOU TWO.
OKAY, OKAY. LET'S GO SOMEWHERE PRIVATE.



LOOK, I'M SORRY I NEVER CALLED, OR TEXTED, OR EVEN JUST SAID HI EARLIER. IT'S JUST...*I DUNNO.*

IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT, DEALING WITH AN INSANE *PSYCHIC GORILLA* SEEMED EASIER THAN HAVING TO DO...

...WELL, THIS.


ACCEPTING THIS IS PART OF MY STORY. *HECK,* FOR A BRIEF PERIOD OF TIME IT WAS *OUR STORY.*
I GUESS I TOLD MYSELF WE WERE *FORCED TOGETHER.* AS IF THAT MEANT ALL OF IT WAS *BEYOND MY CONTROL.*

BUT THE TRUTH IS, *I CHOSE* TO GO THROUGH WITH IT, AND DESPITE WHAT LOIS SAYS, I AM IN FACT A *RESPONSIBLE ADULT--*

--WHICH MEANS *I CHOSE* TO BREAK YOUR HEART.

WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS I'M SORRY, BRUNA. SORRY I DIDN'T HANDLE IT ALL BETTER.
AT LEAST THE PARTS I COULD CONTROL.
SO ARE WE...YOU KNOW... COOL?
OH, THANK GOD.
CAN I TAKE A PHOTO, FOR AN EXCLUSIVE WITH THE PLANET?
I'LL BE HANDLING IT SO NO SURPRISES OR ANYTHING, IT'LL BE PART OF A GOOD OL'-FASHIONED PUFF PIECE!
SNAP
OLSEN!
HOW DARE YOU TAKE THAT PHOTO WITHOUT EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION.

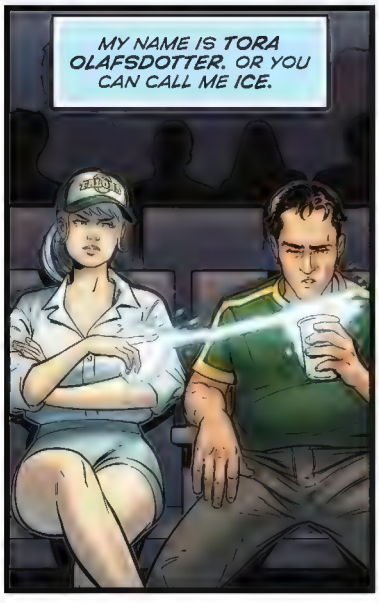
YOUR DISRESPECT FOR THE AGENT-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP SHALL BE YOUR END!
SAVE ME, BRUNA!
SUPERMAN!
I GOT YOU, BUD!
I'M SORRY FOR...WELL EVERYTHING THAT JUST HAPPENED.
LOOK, EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES. MAYBE NOT GORILLA-SIZED ONES, BUT STILL...
...YOU ALWAYS DO THE RIGHT THING IN THE END, JIM. EVEN IF IT TAKES YOU A LITTLE BIT.
BESIDES, I'M YOUR FRIEND. NO MATTER HOW BIG YOU MESS UP, I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE TO CATCH YOU.
THANKS, PAL.
script by.....CHRISTOF BOGACS
pencils & inks by.....JACOBY SALCEDO
colors by.....FRANCESCO SEGALA
letters by.....TAYLOR ESPOSITO
edited by.....SABRINA FUTCH
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.
the end

LEXCORP CENTER.
LOS ANGELES, CA.
I LOVE L.A.
THE MOUNTAINS, THE MOVIE STUDIOS, THE MANSIONS, EVEN THE SMOG.
LEXCORP CENTER
LEX CORP CENTER
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE IT ON EARTH.
I MEAN--EXCEPT WHEN YOU'RE STUCK ON THE 101 AT THE 405 INTERCHANGE.
BUT WHAT BRINGS A LITERAL PRINCESS OF ICE AND COLD TO THE LAND OF SUN AND SURF?
TALONS
IT'S THE BASKETBALL.

DAMN RIGHT, MYKELTI!
YEAH!

SO, UH, YOU KNOW THE PLAYERS' NAMES. THAT'S COOL. MAYBE AFTER THE GAME WE COULD--
OH, I-I'M NOT INTERESTED. THANKS SO MUCH.

$#*@#.


MY NAME IS TORA OLAFSDOTTER. OR YOU CAN CALL ME ICE.

OH GOD! SOMEONE HELP ME!
OH MY...THAT'S AWFUL.
AND THE BEER WAS SO EXPENSIVE!
BUMMER.
I'M A NORSE PRINCESS WITH GODLIKE POWERS. I'VE BEEN A JUSTICE LEAGUER. I'VE BEEN DEAD. THEN UNDEAD. THEN ALIVE AGAIN.

AND ALL I WANT IS TO WATCH THE L.A. TALONS KICK THE CRAP OUT OF THE COAST CITY SHARKS...

--BUT TODAY IS NOT MY DAY.
ALRIGHT, COMMUNIST SCUM!
DOWN ON THE GROUND!
YOU KNOW, BELIEVE IT OR NOT...
...YOU'RE ONLY THE SECOND-WORST MAN I'VE MET TONIGHT.
WE WILL RISE AGAIN--
ALL RIGHT, YOU ARE THE WORST.
NICE PUNCH.
I TOOK CARE OF ALL THE OTHER ONES.

POWER GIRL?
LONG TIME, ICE.
LEX
Center
LATER...
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING SOME OF MY... FRUSTRATIONS OUT.
HA. YOU, TOO, HUH?
YOU, UH, WANT TO GET SOME COFFEE?
SURE.
YOU EVER WATCH MELROSE PLACE?

HOW'D YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?
IT'S THE BEST COFFEE ON EARTH. LITERALLY. THEY MAKE THIS THING...IT'S A DOUBLE SHOT OF ESPRESSO IN A CUP MADE OF CHOCOLATE.
AND WHY AREN'T WE DRINKING *THAT?*
WELL, IT'S TEN-THIRTY, AND I FIGURED YOU LIKE TO SLEEP...
PLEASE, I'M A SUPERHERO. I HAVEN'T GONE TO SLEEP BEFORE FOUR A.M. SINCE I JOINED THE JLI.
HMM. I HAVEN'T JUST GONE OUT FOR COFFEE IN ALMOST AS LONG.
IT'S LONELY, RIGHT?
WHAT?
WHAT WE DO.
I DUNNO. I MEAN, I'VE BEEN ON TEAMS. SO HAVE YOU.
SURE. BUT WE'VE BEEN "THE GIRL" ON THE TEAM.
MEANING?
MEN ONLY
HOW OFTEN ARE THERE MORE THAN ONE OF US ON A TEAM? IT'S US AND A BUNCH OF, WELL, DUDES.
AND THEN HOW MUCH CAN WE JUST BE US AND NOT WHAT THEY WANT US TO BE?

I SUPPOSE. I MEAN--I USUALLY HAD FIRE. FOR GOOD OR ILL.
IT'S SORT OF THE OPPOSITE PROBLEM, RIGHT? I'M PART OF A MATCHED SET. I DON'T GET TO JUST BE AN INDIVIDUAL BECAUSE I'M ONE OF TWO--I'M NOT JUST *ICE.* I'M "*AND ICE.*"
I GET THAT. MORE THAN YOU PROBABLY REALIZE. I MEAN...HELLO, SUPERGIRL.
WHAT?
OH. RIGHT. SORRY.
I JUST... I KNOW YOU HATE TO TALK ABOUT--
NO, IT'S FINE.
I MEAN, IT'S WEIRD, BUT IT'S JUST...REALITY. IT'S WHY I CHOSE MY OWN NAME. I WANTED TO BE MY OWN PERSON. HAVE MY OWN IDENTITY.
HEY, FOLLOW ME. I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
UH. MIND GIVING ME A LIFT? THE ICE-SLIDE THING IS EXHAUSTING.
MUST SUCK NOT TO FLY.

THEY SHUT THIS DOWN, BUT IT WAS A REAL TOURIST TRAP. I MEAN, A GLASS SLIDE SEVENTY FLOORS UP!
THE FACT THAT WE SPEND SO MUCH OF OUR LIVES THOUSANDS OF FEET OFF THE GROUND SHOULD MAKE IT LESS SCARY TO STAND ON A GLASS FLOOR LOOKING DOWN, AND YET...
IT'S A WEIRD TRICK OF THE MIND, I THINK. I'VE LITERALLY BEEN PUNCHED IN THE FACE BY MONGUL AND CAN FLY IN SPACE, YET STANDING ON A PIECE OF GLASS SEVENTY STORIES UP MAKES MY STOMACH GET ALL FLUTTERY.
I GET IT...I'VE BEEN KILLED AND RESURRECTED AND I'D DO IT AGAIN RATHER THAN GO OUT ON A BLIND DATE.

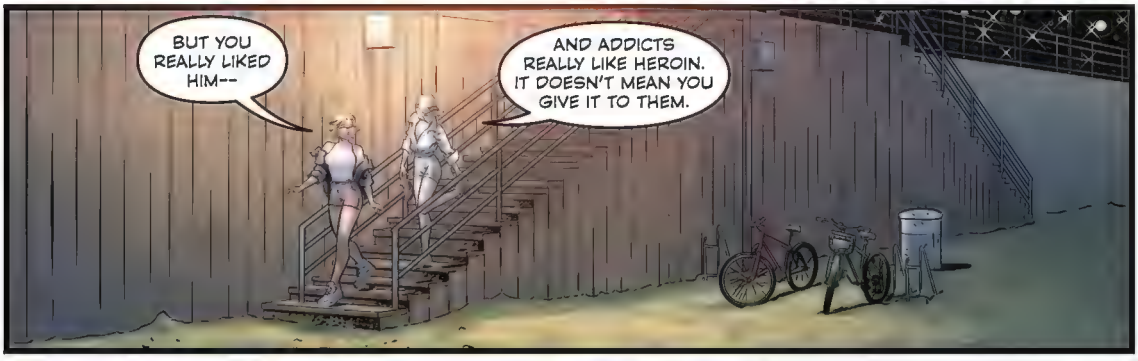
STILL SINGLE, HUH?
YES. YOU?
NOT SO MUCH, NO.

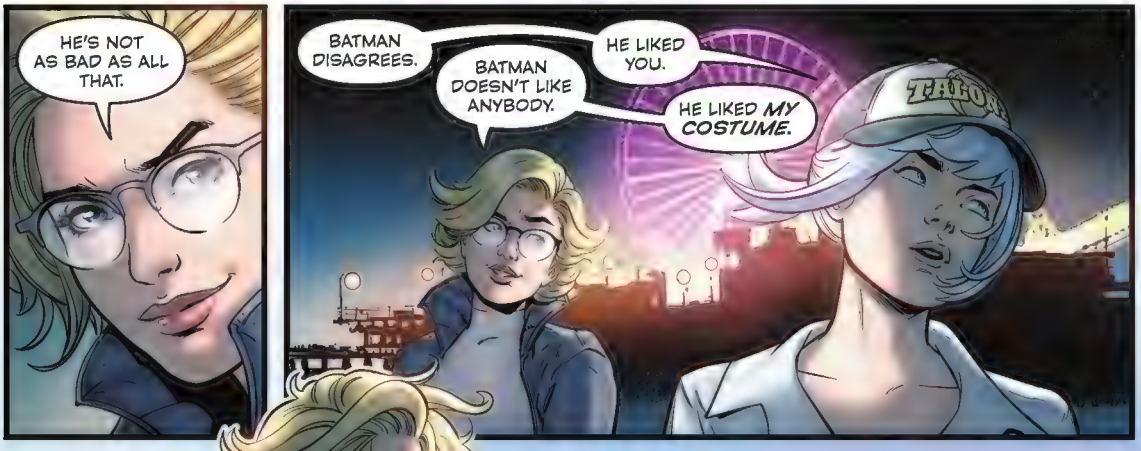
HUH.
CAN WE GET OUT OF HERE?
SURE.

WHO'S THE LUCKY GUY--OR PERSON--SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO ASSUME.
NO, THAT'S OKAY. IT'S A GUY. HE'S JUST... SOMEONE. I DUNNO.
I SPENT SO LONG BEING ALONE--
--YOU KNOW THE WEIRDEST PART ABOUT HAVING SUPER-SENSES?

I CAN HEAR, FEEL--EVEN SEE THE PULSE OF EVERY LIVING THING. I HAVE TO ACTIVELY DECIDE NOT TO SENSE THEM. BUT--WITH SO MANY HEARTBEATS ALL AROUND ME, I REALIZED I'D NEVER FELT THE HEARTBEAT OF SOMEONE I LOVED...
...SOMEONE I CARED ABOUT FOR MORE THAN JUST THE SIMPLE FACT THAT THEY WERE A LIVING THING THAT DESERVED TO CONTINUE TO LIVE.
THAT MADE ME SAD, AND I WAS SICK OF BEING SAD.

WHAT ABOUT YOU AND GUY GARDNER?
WHAT ABOUT US?
YOU HAD A THING.
WE DID.
DO YOU STILL?
UNFORTUNATELY.
HAVE YOU MET GUY?
THEN YOU CAN ANSWER THAT FOR YOURSELF.


BUT YOU REALLY LIKED HIM--
AND ADDICTS REALLY LIKE HEROIN. IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU GIVE IT TO THEM.


HE'S NOT AS BAD AS ALL THAT.
BATMAN DISAGREES.
BATMAN DOESN'T LIKE ANYBODY.
HE LIKED YOU.
HE LIKED MY COSTUME.
TALON

WHAT? YOU THINK I NEVER NOTICED GRIM AND GRITTY CHECKING ME OUT?

OOP. SUBSONIC SIGNAL FROM KAL.
HE NEEDS ME. I HAVE TO GO.
THIS WAS NICE.
IT WAS, YES.
YEAH?
THAT GUY I'M SEEING?
IT'S GOOD. I LIKE IT. YOU SHOULD TRY IT.
I DON'T KNOW...OF COURSE YOU CAN HANDLE IT ALL. YOU'RE LITERALLY A SUPERWOMAN--
NAH, I'M JUST A POWER GIRL.
YOU CAN HANDLE IT. AND IF YOU ASK ME...YOU NEED IT.
SEE YOU, TORA.

TALONS

HEY, GUY. IT'S ME.
NO. IT'S NOT A BOOTY CALL.

OH MY GOD, YOU'RE THE WORST.
I THOUGHT WE COULD MAYBE GO GET DINNER SOMETIME...
TALONS

YEAH? THAT SOUNDS... NICE.
BEFORE SUNRISE
WRITER: JOSHUA HALE FIALKOV
ARTIST: BRUNO ABDIAS • COLORS: EREN ANGIOLINI
LETTERS: JOSH REED • EDITOR: MICHAEL McCALISTER
THE END.

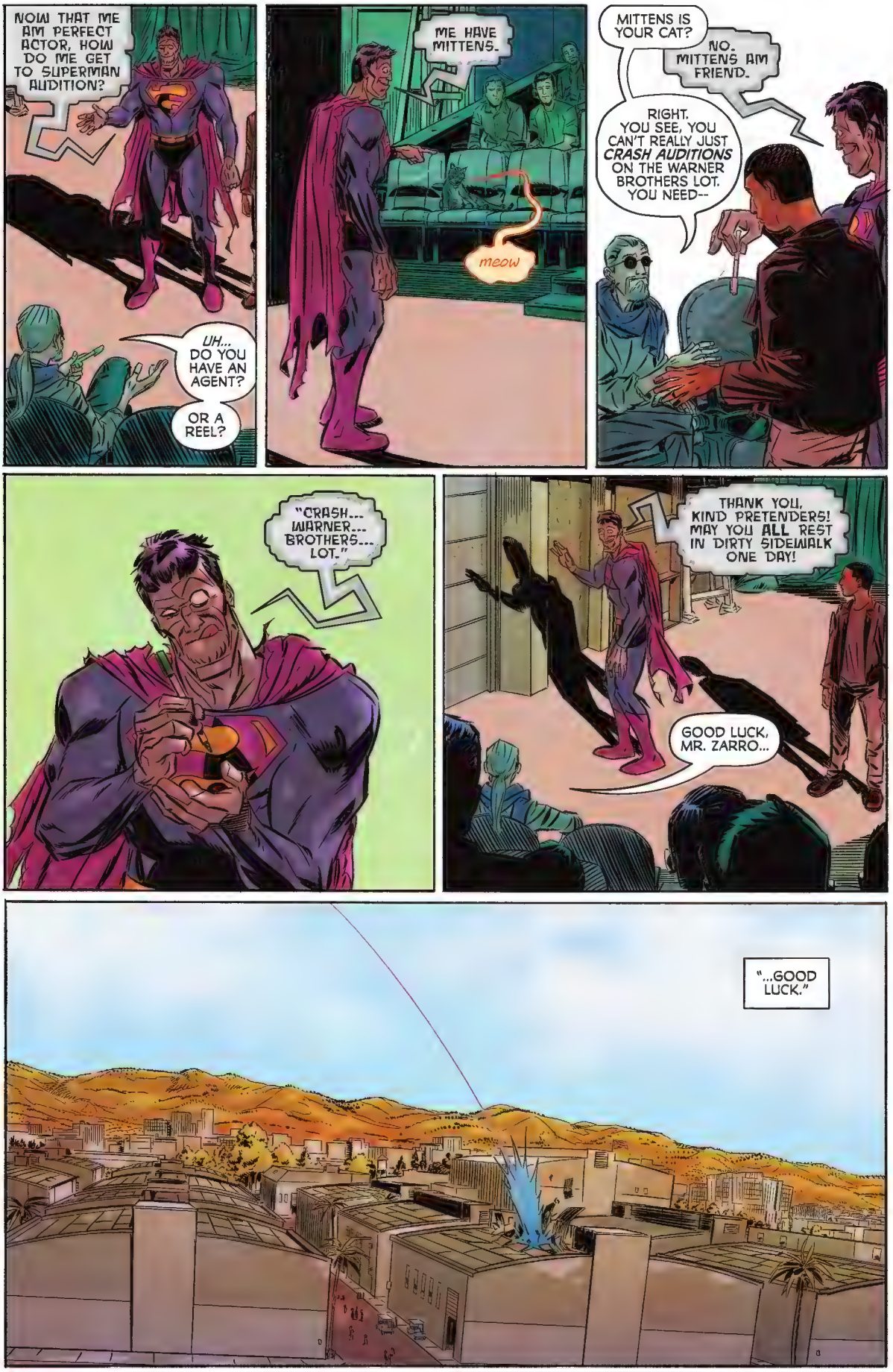
LOOK UP THERE! THAT CAT'S GOING TO FALL!
SOMEONE HELP IT!
WAIT-- WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S A BIRD!
IT'S A PLANE!
IT'S...
OH. IT WAS A BIRD.
HUH.
NO NEED NOT TO NOT FEAR...
SMASH
BIZARRO AM HERE!
AAAGH!
NOOOO!
HEEELP!
HEY!

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU CALL THIS?
SHE AM CALLED MITTENS!
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE CAT! I'M TALKING ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE YOU JUST SENT PLUMMETING INTO THE RIVER WHILE SAVING THE CAT!
PEOPLE AM SWIM! CATS NOT HAVE LESSONS!
YEAH, DUH! IT'S A STUPID, UGLY BEAST-- JUST LIKE YOU, FRANKENSTEIN!
CITIZENS WORRIED ABOUT MITTENS! ME RESCUE HER SO THEY SEE THAT ME AM HERO-- LIKE SUPERMAN!
BREAKING NEWS! YOU AIN'T A HERO! YOU'RE JUST A FREAK IN A HERO'S COSTUME, AND EVERYONE KNOWS IT!
YOU WANNA HELP? GET OUTTA THE WAY, GET THAT CAT BACK TO WHATEVER IDIOT IT BELONGS TO, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY--
--QUIT TRYING TO BE SUPERMAN, CUZ YOU'RE NEVER GONNA BE!
meow
SHUT UP.

...AND REPAIRS OF THE CORRIGAN BRIDGE ARE ESTIMATED TO TAKE TWELVE TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS. GREEN LANTERN PROVIDED A STATEMENT, BUT IT IS UNFORTUNATELY UNFIT FOR BROADCAST.
WHY THEY NO UNDERSTAND, MITTENS? ME ONLY AM WANTING TO HELP...
BAR
MENU PIZZA
Breakfast and Lunch
...TO EARN THEM LOVE.
NOW, AT THE SPECIAL REQUEST OF DAILY PLANET E.I.C. LOIS LANE, PLEASE WELCOME REPORTER CLARK KENT IN A RARE ON-SCREEN APPEARANCE!
AT LEAST ME HAVE YOU, MITTENS.
CLARK KENT
YES, THANK YOU. AS A FREQUENT REPORTER ON SUPERMAN, I'M...HONORED TO ANNOUNCE THAT AN OPEN CASTING CALL HAS BEEN RELEASED FOR THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED FILM BASED ON METROPOLIS'S PROTECTOR.
THAT'S RIGHT-- YOU COULD BE THE NEXT SUPERMAN!
WITH AUDITIONS TAKING PLACE IN L.A. OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, ANYONE CAN BECOME THE MOST BELOVED PERSON ON THE PLANET--EVEN A MILD-MANNERED, MEEK, GENERALLY UNREMARKABLE FARM BOY LIKE...ME.
KENT
LIGHT BULB, MITTENS! ME CAN PROVE ME AM JUST LIKE SUPERMAN!
WE AM GO TO LAND OF ANGELS-- LOUISIANA!
Metropolis's best DEVICES
IT'S NOT THAT FUNNY, LOIS!

ONE MARDI GRAS LATER...
meow
AM NOT MY FAULT THEY BOTH AM NAMED L.A.! AT LEAST WE AM HERE NOW!
OLLYWOOD
LAND OF DREAMS! HAPPINESS! A PLACE TO BECOME NEW PERSON!
AND HELPFUL SIGN, SO ME REMEMBER WHERE ME AM!
OLLYWOOD
THIS AM WHERE STARS LIVE, MITTENS. MASTERS OF PLAYING PRETEND, ALL WITH ADORING FANS! ALWAYS HAPPY UNTIL THE DAY THEY--
OH DEVIL. LET US HAVE MOMENT OF NOISE, MITTENS...
...THIS AM MOST TALENTED GRAVEYARD IN THE WORLD.

IF ME AM GOING TO REST IN SPECIAL DIRTY SIDEWALK ONE DAY, ME AM GOING TO HAVE TO EARN IT! TO WORK LIKE SUPERMAN! ME HAVE TO IMPROVE MYSELF-- LEARN ART OF ACTING!
IMPROVE ACTING! PERFECT!
IMPROV ACTING CLASS
NICE, UH, BOAT, STEVE!
BOAT AM BORING. ME HAVE JETPACK!
REMEMBER, MR...ZARRO? YOU SAY, "YES, AND."
AH! ME UNDERSTAND SECRET TRICK!
YES--
--AND!
NO, YOU SAY SOMETHING AFTER "AND."
YOU AM WISE, ENTERTAINMENT WIZARD. MAY YOU REST IN DIRTY SIDEWALK ONE DAY.


NOW THAT ME AM PERFECT ACTOR, HOW DO ME GET TO SUPERMAN AUDITION?
UH... DO YOU HAVE AN AGENT?
OR A REEL?
ME HAVE MITTENS.
meow
MITTENS IS YOUR CAT?
NO. MITTENS AM FRIEND.
RIGHT. YOU SEE, YOU CAN'T REALLY JUST *CRASH AUDITIONS* ON THE WARNER BROTHERS LOT. YOU NEED--
"CRASH... WARNER... BROTHERS... LOT."
THANK YOU, KIND PRETENDERS! MAY YOU **ALL** REST IN DIRTY SIDEWALK ONE DAY!
GOOD LUCK, MR. ZARRO...
"...GOOD LUCK."

YES...
AAGGHHH!
...AND!
--UM, ARE YOU HERE TO AUDITION?
OF COURSE! ME AM SPITTLE IMAGE OF SUPERMAN!
AH, ALL RIGHT. WELL, HERE ARE SOME SIDES--
Hnk...
ME NOT NEED THEM!
ME LEARN TO GIVE IMPROVED SPEECH ABOUT SUPERMAN!
OKAY THEN, WHENEVER YOU'RE READY.
ME AM SUPERMAN! ME LOVE TO FLY, SAVE PEOPLE, AND GOOD DOGGY!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MR. KARLO?
I HATE THIS [redacted] TOWN.
ME DEFEAT VILLAINS, FLY IN COOL COSTUME, AND HAVE MANY FANS! EVERYONE KNOW THAT ME AM POWERFUL, IMPRESSIVE, AND COOL GUY!
ME AM FAVORITE PERSON OF EARTH! ME HAVE BIG FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS! ME... ME...
...ME AM LOVED.

LATER.
--SSKKT--
--SSS--WHY, MITTENS? ME--HKK--TRY SO HARD, AND ME NOT EVEN GOOD ENOUGH TO BE PRETEND SUPERMAN.
THIS STRANGE WORLD... THESE STRANGE PEOPLE... THEY AM SO BEAUTIFUL. ME LOVE THEM SO MUCH, BUT ME NEVER UNDERSTAND THEM.
AND THEM NEVER UNDERSTAND ME.
WHY AM ME ALWAYS SQUARE PEG IN ROUND WORLD?
WHY AM ME NOT WORTHY OF LOVE?
ME NOT NEED THAT, MITTENS. ME AM NO ACTOR. ME AM NO SUPERMAN.
meow

IS JUST SILLY, PRETEND STORY ANYWAY. NO HELP FOR REAL WORLD.
ZOD:
Why, Superman? Why fight for this world of hateful, weak insects? They FEAR you! They'll never accept you!
SUPERMAN:
They are afraid of what they don't understand, yes. But I don't defend them because they're perfect.
SUPERMAN:
They are afraid of what they don't understand, yes. But I don't defend them because they're perfect.
SUPERMAN:
I defend them because I CAN. Because they can grow past their fear. Of me, of the world—of themselves.
SUPERMAN:
I don't protect them so they'll love me. I protect them so they can love each other.
meow

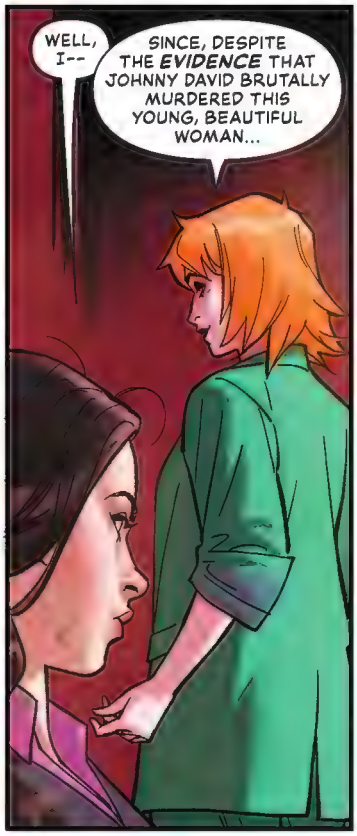
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
ME THINK THIS AM YOUR FRIEND.
MITTENS! YOU FOUND MITTENS!
SHE AM GOOD KITTY. ME SORRY FOR NOT RETURNING SOONER. JUST NEEDED...
WAS BEING SELFISH.
I WAS SO WORRIED, AND YOU--
--YOU SAVED HER!
I LOVE YOU, SUPERMAN!
prrr...
YOU--YOU AM WELCOME. BUT ME AM NOT SUPERMAN. ME...
"...ME AM BIZARRO."
BIZARRO IN
AGAINST THE WIND
James Reid SCRIPT
Jon Mikel ART
Ian Herring COLORS
Lucas Gattoni LETTERS
Sabrina Futch EDITS
Superman created by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER.
By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.
"WELCOME, MY LITTLE APPLE CORES..."
BITE OF THE APPLE PODCAST LIVE SHOW! SOLD OUT
BITE OF THE APPLE PODCAST LIVE SHOW SOLD OUT
...TO BITE OF THE APPLE'S FIRST LIVE SHOW!
I'M YOUR FAVORITE HOST, CORDIA CONFLIT, AND TONIGHT, THREE WEEKS AFTER THE TRAGIC MURDER OF THE YOUNG STARLET MALLY GRAY...
...WE LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE WHO THEY THINK BROUGHT HER TO AN ABRUPT END, WITH INSIGHT FROM A VERY SPECIAL GUEST.
WHO WILL BE HERE...
...ANY MINUTE NOW.
CLICK

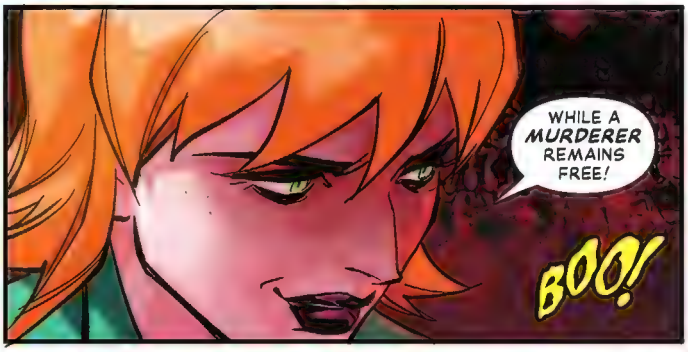
SLAM
HERE SHE IS! MULTIPLE PULITZER PRIZE WINNING EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE DAILY PLANET,
LOIS LANE!
WE'RE SO GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. DID YOU...
...COME FROM THE AIRPORT?
CLAP CLAP CLAP
OH, NO. I GOT IN EARLY THIS MORNING TO SEE MY SISTER...

LAX EARLY THIS MORNING.
I PROMISE, CLARK. I WON'T DO ANYTHING TOO... CRAZY.
LUCY'S PULLING UP NOW.
I LOVE YOU, TOO.
NORTHWEST
YOU KNOW BITE OF THE APPLE MAKES, LIKE, LOADS OF MONEY.
I KNOW THAT'S A FOREIGN CONCEPT TO YOU, BUT THEY COULD HAVE SENT A CAR TO PICK YOU UP INSTEAD OF DRAGGING ME OUT OF BED.
IT'S A CONFLICT OF INTEREST TO TAKE THEIR MONEY.
BESIDES, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE SOME SISTER TIME!
IT'S TOO EARLY IN THE DAY TO HAVE SISTER TIME.
HOTEL?
I...WANT TO MAKE A COUPLE STOPS FIRST.

NOW.
MALLY GRAY. TWENTY-TWO YEARS OLD.
FOUND DEAD, THREE WEEKS AGO ALONG A POPULAR CALIFORNIA HIKING TRAIL.
THE ONLY EVIDENCE THE POLICE HAD TO GO ON...
...WERE A HALF EATEN APPLE...
...CLAW MARKS ON THE BODY, AS IF FROM A GIANT BIRD...
...AND THE REPORT OF A FIGHT WITH HER FORMER BOYFRIEND, A STOCK CLERK NAMED JOHNNY DAVID.
ANY INSIGHT YOU CAN GIVE US ON JOHNNY DAVID, MS. LANE?


WELL, I--
SINCE, DESPITE THE EVIDENCE THAT JOHNNY DAVID BRUTALLY MURDERED THIS YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL WOMAN...

Daily Planet
Independent Experts Concerned Podcast Skewing Investigation.
...THE DAILY PLANET ATTACKED THIS PODCAST.
SHIFTING THE NARRATIVE, THE BLAME, ONTO US.
FOR SIMPLY WANTING TO TELL THE TRUTH.


WHILE A MURDERER REMAINS FREE!
BOO!

BOOOOOO!
WHAT SAY YOU TO THE CROWD, LOIS LANE?!

YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO BUY ME GROCERIES, LOIS. THIS PLACE IS TOO EXPENSIVE.
YOU KEEP BRINGING UP MONEY. WE'RE FINE, LUCY.
IT'S JUST--
I KNOW SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DOWN, LOIS. PRINT MEDIA IS DYING.
YOU'RE RENTING OUT HALF THE OFFICES AT THE PLANET JUST TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON.
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT STARTING A PODCAST?
MORE PEOPLE LISTEN TO A PODCAST THAN READ A PAPER.
I JUST DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU CRASH OUT.
YOU JOURNALISTS. A DYING BREED, GETTING IN THE WAY OF THE NEXT GENERATION.

BOOOOOO!
MAYBE YOU COULD BECOME A PERSONALITY! YOU COULD BE, LIKE, A NEWS INFLUENCER OR SOMETHING!
q/dailyplanet
u/FallingSaint • 12 hr. ago
Lois Lane spineless editor in chief.
Share
I'M SORRY, MS. LANE, BUT IT'S TIME TO FACE THE MUSIC.
Daily planet refuses to speculate
Will Old Guard Daily Planet Learn New Tricks.
Oh, for sure. Remember when they used to call out Lex Luthor all the time?!
Lois Lane refusing to call out Johnny David as a murderer shows just how cowardly the news has become.
SAYING I'M NOT A JOURNALIST, CALLING MY PODCAST UNPROFESSIONAL, THAT WAS THE FINAL NAIL IN THE PRINT INDUSTRY'S COFFIN.
AS IF I AM THE UNPROFESSIONAL ONE--
--WHEN YOU COULDN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED TO SHOWER BEFORE SHOWING UP!

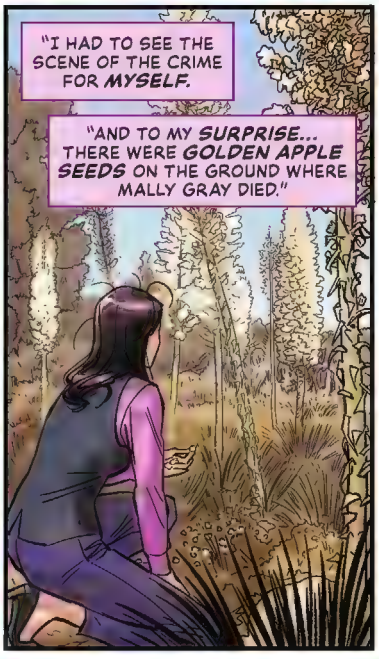
YOU JUST...WANTED TO GO ON A HIKE?
YOU'RE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT THE HIKES HERE!
AND THIS SEEMS MORE LIKE A HILL AT BEST.
WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME IF YOU WANT TO SHOWER BEFORE THE SHOW...
WAIT, LOIS--THAT ISN'T EVEN PART OF THE PATH!
COME ON, LUCY.
WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF ADVEN--
SKRRK
AHHH!
RUMBLE RUMBLE
THUD
THERE YOU ARE...
"WELL, MS. LANE? WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY?

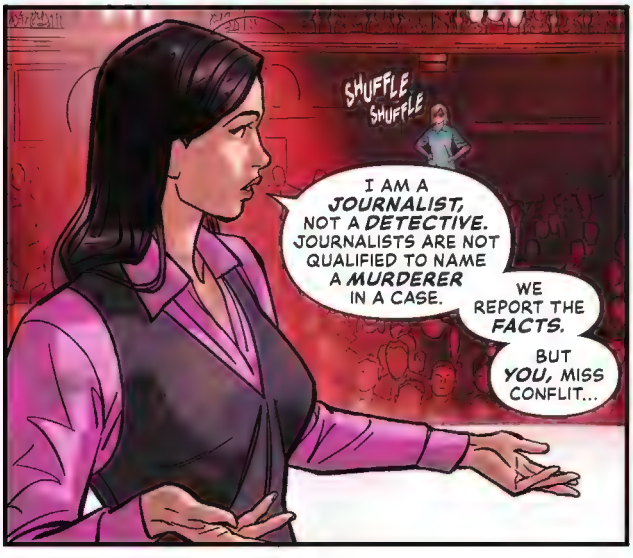
I AM A JOURNALIST, MISS CONFLIT. I HAVE BEEN FOR A LONG TIME.
NOT TO BE FAMOUS. NOT TO MAKE A NAME FOR MYSELF.
I PROVIDE AN ACCURATE AND TRANSPARENT REPORT OF THE FACTS WITHOUT INFLUENCING THE STORY.

SO LET'S START WITH THE FACTS.

"YOU CRITIQUED MY PAPER ON HOW WE HANDLED JOHNNY DAVID...
"...BUT YOU NEVER ONCE INTERVIEWED HIM.
"ACCORDING TO HIM, YOU NEVER EVEN REACHED OUT FOR COMMENT.

"WHICH IS WHEN I STARTED TO REALIZE THERE MAY BE MORE TO THIS STORY.
"MORE THAT YOUR PODCAST DID NOT REVEAL, IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE THE REPORT.


"I HAD TO SEE THE SCENE OF THE CRIME FOR MYSELF.
"AND TO MY SURPRISE... THERE WERE GOLDEN APPLE SEEDS ON THE GROUND WHERE MALLY GRAY DIED."

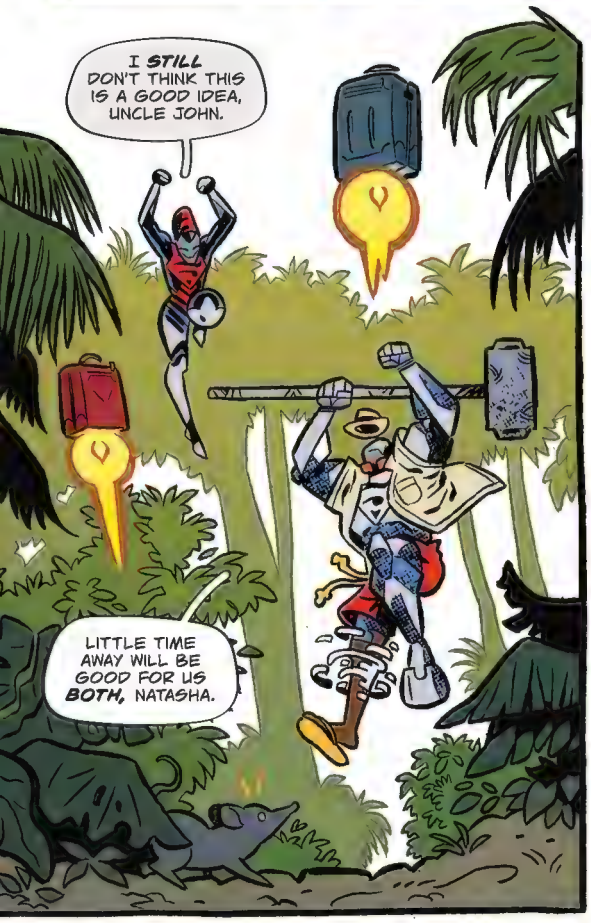

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
I AM A JOURNALIST, NOT A DETECTIVE. JOURNALISTS ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO NAME A MURDERER IN A CASE.
WE REPORT THE FACTS.
BUT YOU, MISS CONFLIT...

...WELL, YOU'RE NOT MISS CONFLIT AT ALL, ARE YOU...

...ERIS?
THE GODDESS OF CHAOS AND DISCORD!
WHY, YOU LITTLE--
AHHHH!
THWIP
YOUR SISTER CALLED. SAID YOU MIGHT NEED SOME ASSISTANCE.

THINK THAT'LL MOTIVATE ANY OF THEM TO GET A DAILY PLANET SUBSCRIPTION?
I'D RATHER THEY SUPPORT MALLY GRAY'S POOR MOTHER...
I SPOKE TO HER LAST NIGHT. SHE'S DOING OKAY, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED. SHE'LL BE HAPPY TO KNOW BITE OF THE APPLE WON'T BE PROFITING OFF HER DAUGHTER ANYMORE.
LOIS, I-- I DIDN'T MEAN ALL THE STUFF I SAID--
HEY, IT'S OKAY. YOU'RE ALLOWED TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR BIG SISTER.
BUT LISTEN TO ME. WE WILL ALWAYS NEED JOURNALISTS.
MAYBE WE WON'T BE PAID WELL, MAYBE WE WON'T ALWAYS BE RESPECTED.
"BUT WE NEED JOURNALISTS TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE BY THEIR PEERS, NOT INFLUENCERS.
"WE NEED JOURNALISTS WHO CAN'T BE BOUGHT BY ADVERTISERS.
"WE NEED JOURNALISTS WHO THINK OF THE PEOPLE, NOT THE MONEY.
"AFTER ALL...
"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A SUPERHERO TO FIGHT FOR TRUTH."
END.

CALIFORNIA
(knows how to party)


I STILL DON'T THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA, UNCLE JOHN.
LITTLE TIME AWAY WILL BE GOOD FOR US BOTH, NATASHA.

YOUR MISSION FOR THE WEEKEND IS TO RELAX... AND TRY TO HAVE SOME FUN.
THIS WAY
I BELIEVE IN YOU.

I-R-O-N-S. JOHN AND NATASHA.

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM METROPOLIS, YOU SAID? WHAT DO YOU DO THERE?

I RUN A--WELL, A RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FACILITY. WE MAKE THINGS TO SAVE THE WORLD.

IS THAT RIGHT? I DIDN'T KNOW TO EXPECT A REAL-LIFE SUPERHERO THIS MORNING.

OH, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT...

THIS IS GOING TO BE SO LAME...

!

STEEL WORKS

OH.

HEY.

Across the Room

by Brandon Thomas & Juni Ba

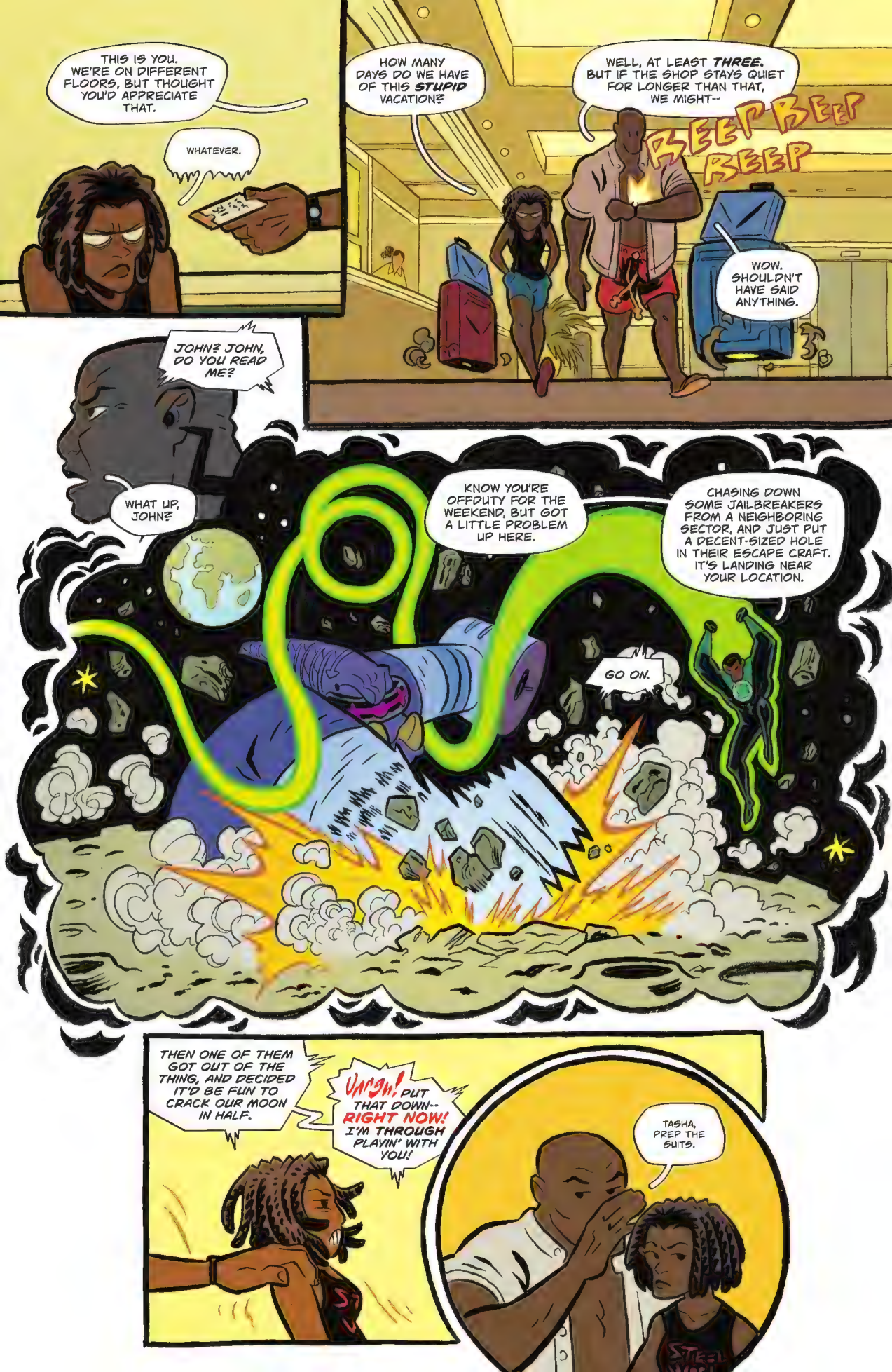
WITH CHRIS O'HALLORAN - COLORS
ADITYA BIDIKAR - LETTERS
ANDREW MARINO AND KATIE KUBERT - EDITS

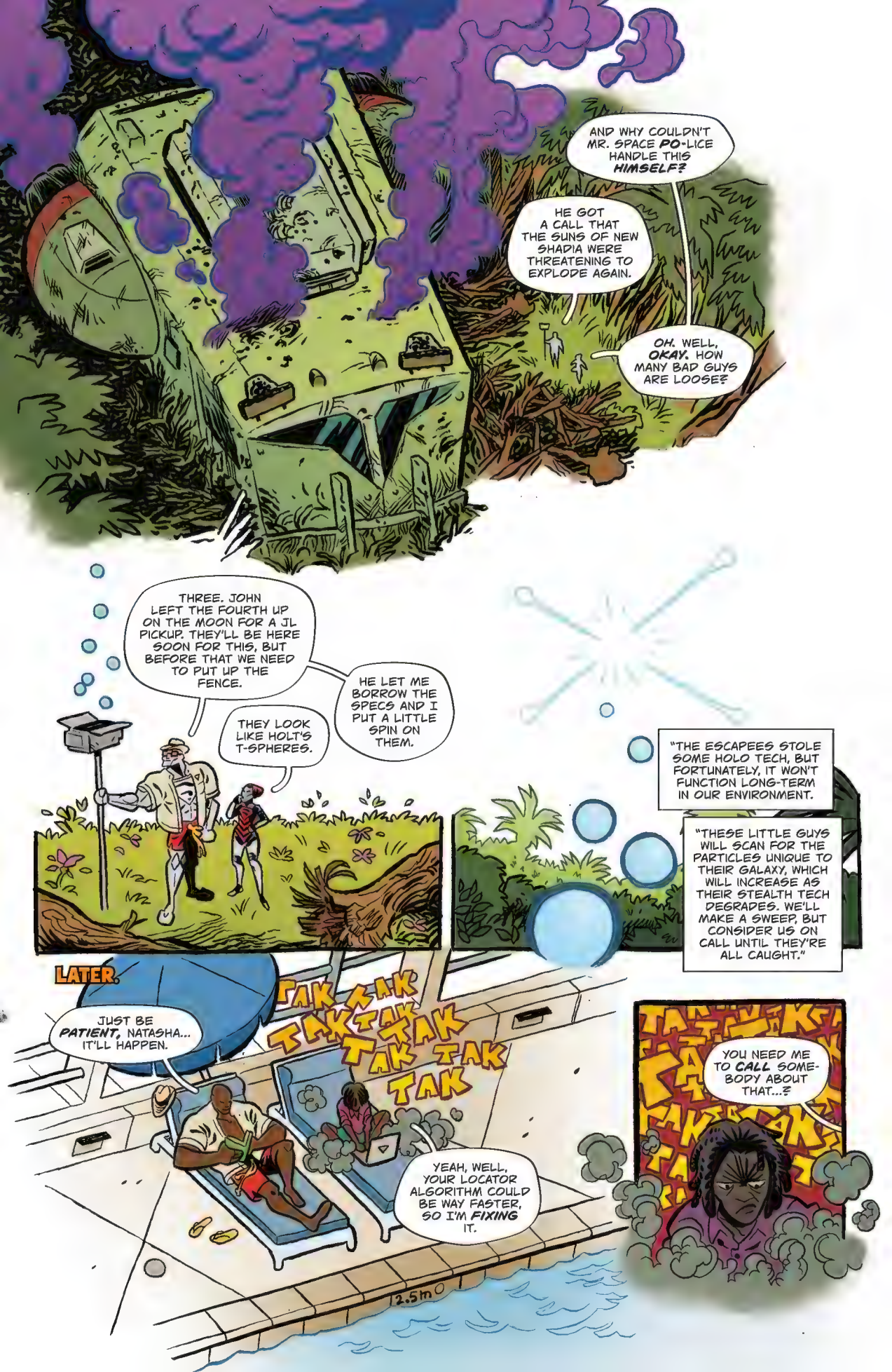
WHA...?

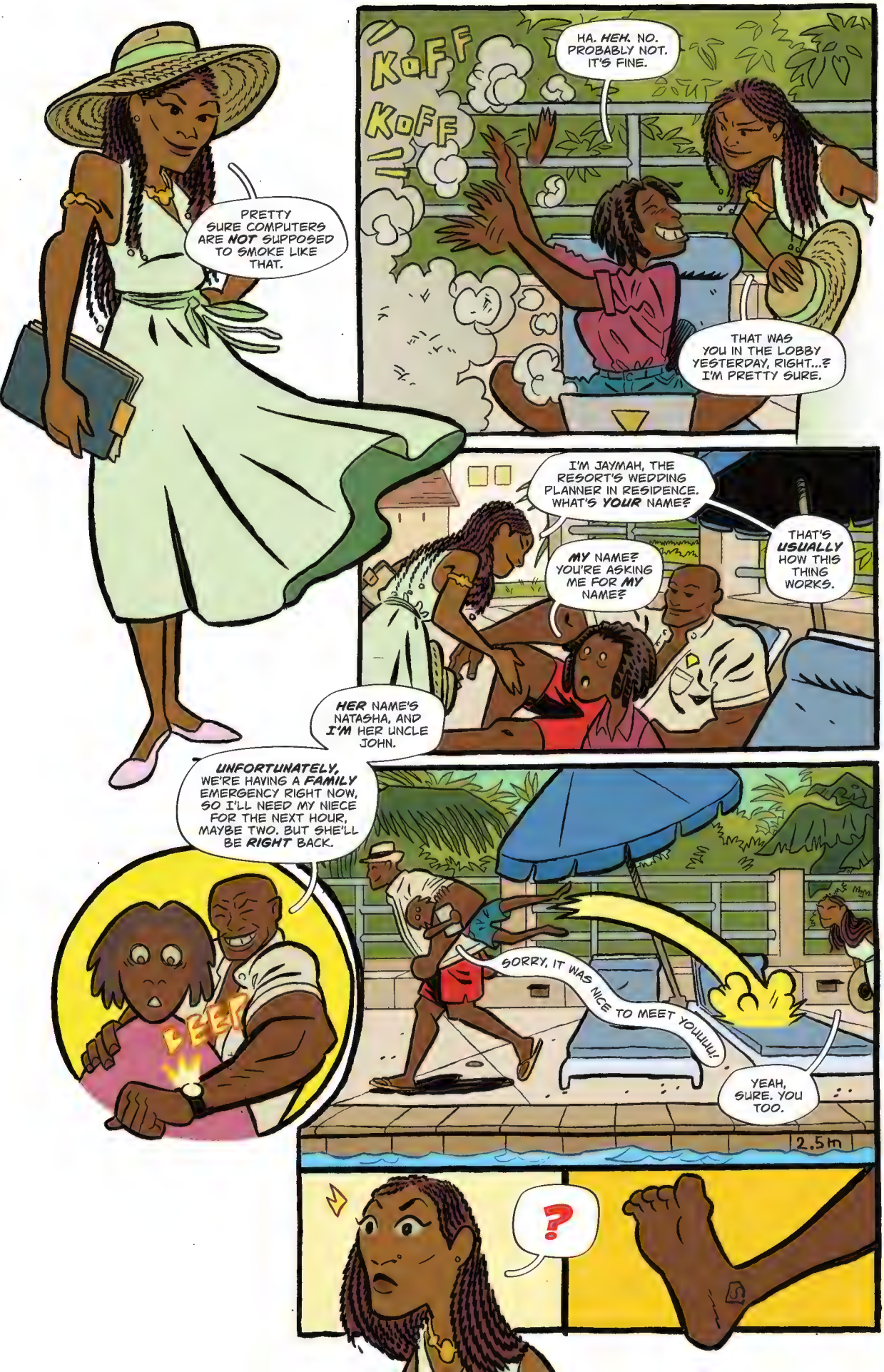
EWWW!

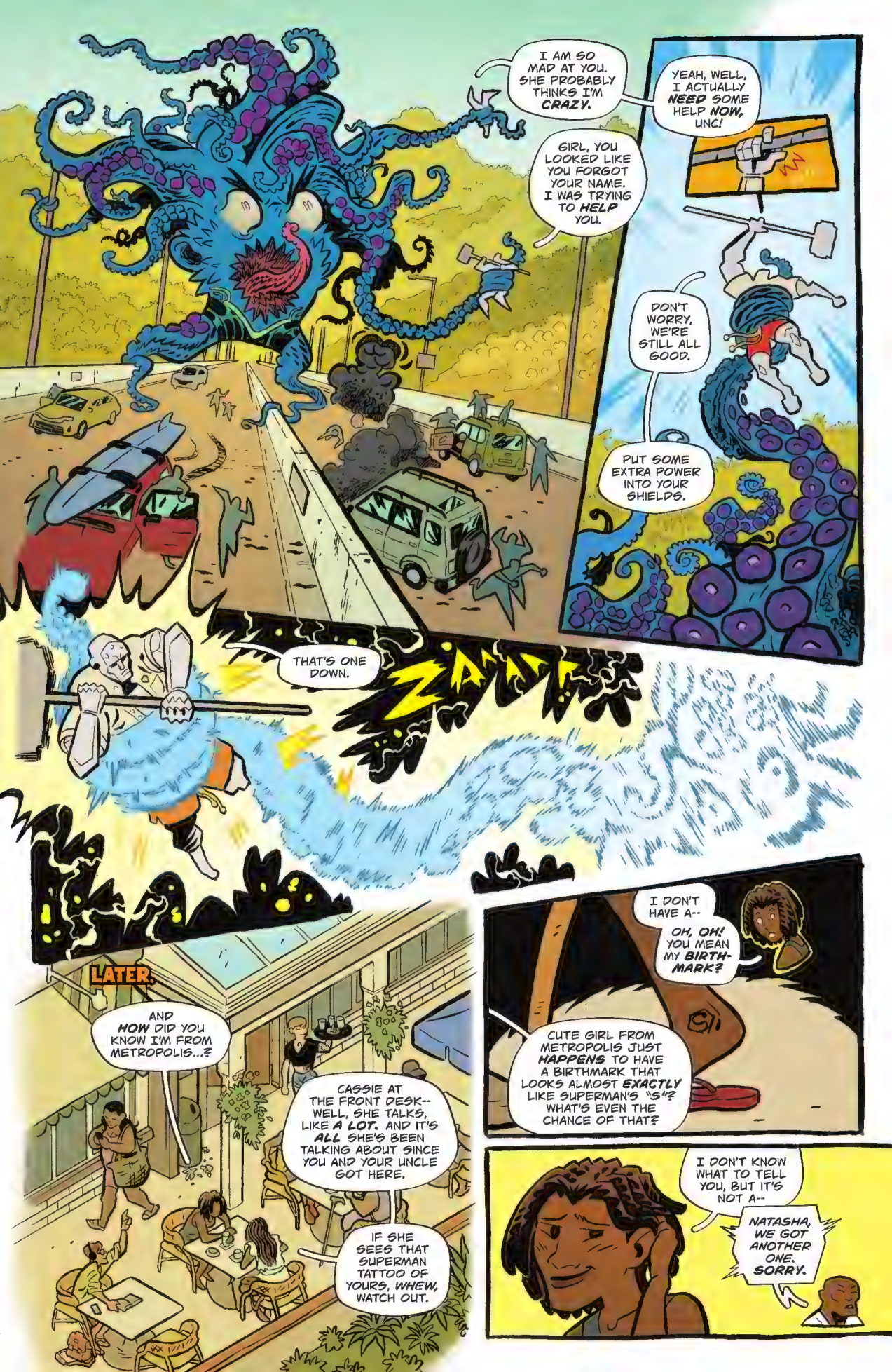
COOTIES!

SUPER GROSS.


THIS IS YOU. WE'RE ON DIFFERENT FLOORS, BUT THOUGHT YOU'D APPRECIATE THAT.
WHATEVER.
HOW MANY DAYS DO WE HAVE OF THIS STUPID VACATION?
WELL, AT LEAST THREE. BUT IF THE SHOP STAYS QUIET FOR LONGER THAN THAT, WE MIGHT--
BEEP BEEP BEEP
WOW. SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID ANYTHING.
JOHN? JOHN, DO YOU READ ME?
WHAT UP, JOHN?
KNOW YOU'RE OFFDUTY FOR THE WEEKEND, BUT GOT A LITTLE PROBLEM UP HERE.
CHASING DOWN SOME JAILBREAKERS FROM A NEIGHBORING SECTOR, AND JUST PUT A DECENT-SIZED HOLE IN THEIR ESCAPE CRAFT. IT'S LANDING NEAR YOUR LOCATION.
GO ON.
THEN ONE OF THEM GOT OUT OF THE THING, AND DECIDED IT'D BE FUN TO CRACK OUR MOON IN HALF.
VARGH! PUT THAT DOWN-- RIGHT NOW! I'M THROUGH PLAYIN' WITH YOU!
TASHA, PREP THE SUITS.

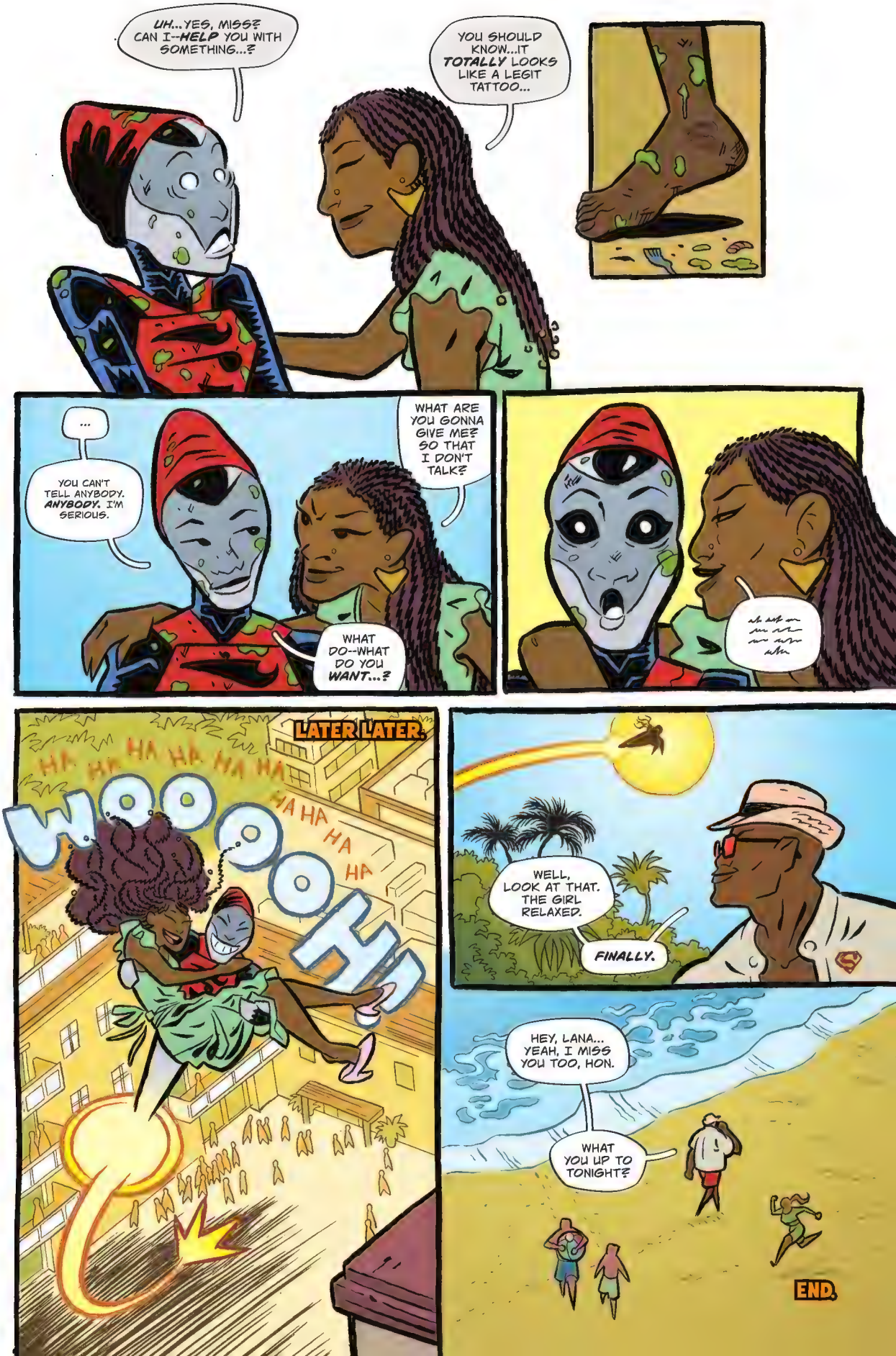

AND WHY COULDN'T MR. SPACE PO-LICE HANDLE THIS HIMSELF?
HE GOT A CALL THAT THE SUNS OF NEW SHADIA WERE THREATENING TO EXPLODE AGAIN.
OH. WELL, OKAY. HOW MANY BAD GUYS ARE LOOSE?
THREE. JOHN LEFT THE FOURTH UP ON THE MOON FOR A JL PICKUP. THEY'LL BE HERE SOON FOR THIS, BUT BEFORE THAT WE NEED TO PUT UP THE FENCE.
HE LET ME BORROW THE SPECS AND I PUT A LITTLE SPIN ON THEM.
THEY LOOK LIKE HOLT'S T-SPHERES.
"THE ESCAPEES STOLE SOME HOLO TECH, BUT FORTUNATELY, IT WON'T FUNCTION LONG-TERM IN OUR ENVIRONMENT.
"THESE LITTLE GUYS WILL SCAN FOR THE PARTICLES UNIQUE TO THEIR GALAXY, WHICH WILL INCREASE AS THEIR STEALTH TECH DEGRADES. WE'LL MAKE A SWEEP, BUT CONSIDER US ON CALL UNTIL THEY'RE ALL CAUGHT."
LATER.
JUST BE PATIENT, NATASHA... IT'LL HAPPEN.
TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK
YEAH, WELL, YOUR LOCATOR ALGORITHM COULD BE WAY FASTER, SO I'M FIXING IT.
YOU NEED ME TO CALL SOMEBODY ABOUT THAT...?
2.5m


PRETTY SURE COMPUTERS ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO SMOKE LIKE THAT.
KOFF KOFF
HA. HEH. NO. PROBABLY NOT. IT'S FINE.
THAT WAS YOU IN THE LOBBY YESTERDAY, RIGHT...? I'M PRETTY SURE.
I'M JAYMAH, THE RESORT'S WEDDING PLANNER IN RESIDENCE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MY NAME? YOU'RE ASKING ME FOR MY NAME?
THAT'S USUALLY HOW THIS THING WORKS.
HER NAME'S NATASHA, AND I'M HER UNCLE JOHN.
UNFORTUNATELY, WE'RE HAVING A FAMILY EMERGENCY RIGHT NOW, SO I'LL NEED MY NIECE FOR THE NEXT HOUR, MAYBE TWO. BUT SHE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
BEEP
SORRY, IT WAS NICE TO MEET YOUUUU!
YEAH, SURE. YOU TOO.
2.5m
?


I AM SO MAD AT YOU. SHE PROBABLY THINKS I'M CRAZY.
GIRL, YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU FORGOT YOUR NAME. I WAS TRYING TO HELP YOU.
YEAH, WELL, I ACTUALLY NEED SOME HELP NOW, UNC!
DON'T WORRY, WE'RE STILL ALL GOOD.
PUT SOME EXTRA POWER INTO YOUR SHIELDS.
THAT'S ONE DOWN.
ZAAAK
I DON'T HAVE A--
OH, OH! YOU MEAN MY BIRTH-MARK?
CUTE GIRL FROM METROPOLIS JUST HAPPENS TO HAVE A BIRTHMARK THAT LOOKS ALMOST EXACTLY LIKE SUPERMAN'S "S"? WHAT'S EVEN THE CHANCE OF THAT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU, BUT IT'S NOT A--
NATASHA, WE GOT ANOTHER ONE. SORRY.
LATER.
AND HOW DID YOU KNOW I'M FROM METROPOLIS...?
CASSIE AT THE FRONT DESK-- WELL, SHE TALKS, LIKE A LOT. AND IT'S ALL SHE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT SINCE YOU AND YOUR UNCLE GOT HERE.
IF SHE SEES THAT SUPERMAN TATTOO OF YOURS, WHEW, WATCH OUT.

YOU OKAY? WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
I DIDN'T MEAN TO-- YOU WANT ME TO TAKE IT BACK?
SORRY! I HAVE TO-- MY UNCLE! SEE YOU LATER! MAYBE! I HOPE! SORRY!
AND I LITERALLY RAN AWAY FROM HER! I DIDN'T EVEN MAKE ANY SENSE!
WELL, ONLY ONE MORE FUGITIVE AFTER THIS, SO MAKE THAT APOLOGY A GOOD ONE.
WHY COULDN'T YOU JUST STAY IN SPACE JAIL? IRRITATING!
TOMORROW MORNING.
I'VE STILL GOT SO MUCH TO FINISH UP, THIS GIRL'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ABSOLUTELY NUTS.
YEAH, I KNOW ALL ABOUT INSANE-O JOBS. WORKING WITH MY UNCLE--IT'S A NEW CRISIS LIKE EVERY SINGLE DAY, AND HE--
JAAAYMAH! YOU GOT A MINUTE?
OH MAN, THIS TIME IT'S ME HAVING TO RUN OFF.
YOU GOOD WITH WEDDINGS? COOL. JUST TELL THEM YOU'RE MY GUEST.

I DON'T SEE WHAT THE BIG DEAL IS.
WHAT? IT'S WEIRD. WE MET LIKE FIVE MINUTES AGO, AND SHE'S INVITING ME TO A WEDDING?!
SHE PLANNED THE WEDDING, NATASHA. IT'S NOT LIKE--
HUH. HAH.
'TASHA, I GOT SOME GOOD NEWS AND SOME BAD NEWS. WHAT YOU WANT FIRST?
MINUTES LATER.
THE WEDDING OF TALA AND JAIME McCLENNAN (AS PLANNED BY JAYMAH).
GAH!
COME ON!
OUCH. YOU STILL GOOD? WHEN YOU'RE BACK UP AND ABOUT, I NEED A PINCER ON MY MARK.
NICE. SEE, NO SWEAT.
DON'T TRY TO MAKE IT BETTER.
WACK!
MORE MINUTES LATER.
JOHN SAID THANKS FOR ALL THIS--HE GOT THERE IN TIME TO CONVINCE THE SUNS NOT TO BLOW UP.
WELL, THAT'S A RELIEF. YOU'RE GOOD TO GO, BLUE BEETLE.
HEY.
WAIT.


UH...YES, MISS? CAN I--HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING...?
YOU SHOULD KNOW...IT TOTALLY LOOKS LIKE A LEGIT TATTOO...
...
YOU CAN'T TELL ANYBODY. ANYBODY. I'M SERIOUS.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA GIVE ME? SO THAT I DON'T TALK?
WHAT DO--WHAT DO YOU WANT...?
LATER LATER.
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
WOOOOH
WELL, LOOK AT THAT. THE GIRL RELAXED.
FINALLY.
HEY, LANA... YEAH, I MISS YOU TOO, HON.
WHAT YOU UP TO TONIGHT?
END.

THE FORESTS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ARE SOME OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN THE WORLD.
IN THE LAST FEW YEARS THEY'VE BECOME SOME OF THE MOST FRAGILE, ESPECIALLY IN SUMMERS LIKE THIS ONE.
MOST OF THAT DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE BY FIRES, BUT RECENTLY...SOMETHING ELSE HAS BEEN THREATENING THESE MIGHTY WOODS.
THRASHING INSIDE OF THEM, CAUSING DAMAGE. SOMETHING SCARED.
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MONITORING FOR A LITTLE BIT FROM THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.
AND I'VE GOTTEN WORD ARGUS IS ABOUT TO GET INVOLVED. DAD SAID I SHOULD GET THERE FIRST.
THAT IT WAS A JOB FOR SUPERMAN...IN THIS CASE ME, JON KENT, NOT MY DAD.

MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS THAT IT WAS ONE OF THE PEOPLE HENRY BENDIX AUGMENTED WITH METAHUMAN ABILITIES.
I THOUGHT JAY AND I HAD GOTTEN ALL OF THOSE PEOPLE BACK TO THEIR HOMES.*
*IN THE PAGES OF SUPERMAN: SON OF KAL-EL! -ANDREW.
BUT IF THIS PERSON IS A STRAGGLER... THEY DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR MEMORIES...THEY'RE JUST OUT HERE SCARED AND CONFUSED.
I CAN HEAR SOMETHING... UNNATURAL IN THE DISTANCE.
IT'S MOVING FAST. I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION...
...BUT I CAN SEE SOMETHING ON IT... A PERSON, WHO COULD--
MOVE OUT OF THE WAY!
GET DOWN, SUPERMAN!
SUPERBOY?!
THWAS
AH MAN--
WHAM
VERY COOL. VERY COOL.

ANOTHER LOSS FOR THE METROPOLIS KID...
IT UH... LOOKS LIKE YOU COULD USE SOME HELP.
SUPERBOY. CONNER KENT. KON-EL. A CLONE OF MY DAD SUPERMAN AND HIS GREATEST ENEMY LEX LUTHOR.
DESPITE HAVING SHARED A CODENAME, HE'S THE MEMBER OF THE SUPER-FAMILY I KNOW THE LEAST.
THANKS, JON. WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? DID YOUR DAD SEND YOU?
NO. WELL, HE TOLD ME IT WAS TIME TO MOVE, BUT THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE BEEN TRACKING FOR A WHILE.
The Superboys in "Who Do You Belong To?"
Writer: Dave Wielgosz
Artist: Joey Vazquez
Inker: Luis Guerrero
Letterer: Steve Wands
Editor: Andrew Marino
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
THAT CREATURE YOU WERE ON...HE'S A HUMAN WHOSE DNA WAS MESSED WITH BY HENRY BENDIX.
ME AND MY PARTNER JAY WERE DEALING WITH A LOT OF SIMILAR CASES RECENTLY.
NO.
NO?
THAT CREATURE'S NAME IS ARNIE. HE WAS NEVER A HUMAN BEING...
...HE WAS CREATED BY A GROUP CALLED CADMUS. DO YOU KNOW THEM?
THAT'S...THAT'S WHERE YOU CAME FROM TOO, RIGHT?
...YEAH...

"THE CADMUS LABS WERE WHERE I SPENT MY EARLY DEVELOPMENT.
"ARNIE WAS CREATED BASED ON THE DNA OF ALIENS AND MONSTERS WHO HAD ATTACKED EARTH.
"IN THOSE DAYS I THOUGHT I WAS JUST MADE TO REPLACE SUPERMAN. ARNIE WAS MADE AS AN ATTACK DOG AGAINST BIGGER MONSTERS.
"BUT ARNIE WAS SWEET...HE WAS THE CLOSEST THING I HAD TO A PET BEFORE I MET KRYPTO.
"NOT TOO LONG BEFORE I'D LEAVE CADMUS ARNIE WOULD BE SHIPPED OFF TO ANOTHER GOVERNMENT-RUN FACILITY.
I KEPT TRACK OF HIM OVER THE YEARS BUT BETWEEN ALL THE SHAKE-UPS IN THE METAHUMAN DIVISIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND MY OWN...UPS AND DOWNS WITH BEING ALIVE...I LOST TRACK OF ARNIE.
I GOT WORD HE HAD ESCAPED. I NEED TO GET TO HIM BEFORE SOME WORSE GOVERNMENT DUDES DO.
ARGUS IS ALREADY ON THEIR WAY HERE. WE NEED A PLAN.
I WISH IT WAS AS SIMPLE AS TAKING ARNIE TO THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE, BUT SINCE HE'S GOVERNMENT PROPERTY...THAT COULD LEAD TO A RAID ON THE FORTRESS THAT WOULDN'T SERVE ANY OF US.
"GOVERNMENT PROPERTY", WOW... WELL SAID, JON.
WHERE WOULD I BE IF YOUR DAD AND GRANDPARENTS HAD THOUGHT THAT ABOUT ME.
CONNER, WAIT--!
"BE SAFE, CONNER!"

UNTIL NEXT TIME, BIG GUY!
YOU DIDN'T SAY MUCH TO CONNER WHILE HE WAS HERE, JON...AND YOU DIDN'T THE LAST FEW TIMES HE STOPPED BY EITHER.
HE DOESN'T BITE. I THINK YOU SHOULD TRY REACHING OUT TO HIM.
I KNOW, DAD...CONNER HAS DONE A LOT OF GOOD BUT...I DON'T KNOW HIM VERY WELL AND HE SEEMS HARD TO KNOW.
IS HE MY HALF-DAD, COUSIN, MY UNCLE, UNCLE COUSIN?
I KNOW YOU'RE KIDDING BECAUSE YOU'RE UNCOMFORTABLE BUT...
CONNER IS SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN TOLD OVER AND OVER AGAIN WHO HE'S GOING TO BE.
AND IN SPITE OF THAT, HE'S CLEARED HIS OWN PATH. BECOME HIS OWN PERSON.
AND HIS ORIGINS MAY BE FROM ME... BUT ALL THE GOOD HE'S DONE IS HIS OWN.
"JUST LIKE YOU, JON."
CONNER, I'M SORRY--
SHH!

ARGUS IS ALREADY HERE. OKAY.
WHAT'S OUR MOVE, CONNER?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS IS YOUR MISSION. YOUR FRIEND. I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOUR LEAD. I TRUST YOU.
WOW, JON...THANKS. I DO HAVE AN IDEA BUT I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU.
IS IT TRUE YOU HAVE SOME OF YOUR DAD'S WEIRDER POWERS?
YOU KNOW FOR GUYS WEARING MINI-MEGAZORDS YOU'RE AWFULLY QUIET.
IS THAT REFERENCE UNDERSTANDABLE FOR ALL OF YOU? WOULD VOLTRON HAVE BEEN BETTER?
ZZZT
SHOCK TROOPERS WOULD'VE BEEN MORE APT.
A HENCHMAN WHO BANTERS BACK!

AND WHO CONFIRMS MY ELECTRIC POWERS ARE VERY APPROPRIATE HERE.
KZZZZZ...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, THE SUITS MADE OF TAX DOLLARS CAN TAKE IT.
AARRGGH!
HRUMP?
GRRRMMM...
NO, ARNIE.
YOU'RE NOT RUNNING OFF.
YOU'RE STICKING WITH ME THIS TIME!
GRUMPF?!
SUPERMAN, ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?
I CAN...KEEP THIS UP FOR A LITTLE LONGER.
TAKE ARNIE AND GO, SUPERBOY!
PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!
"I'VE HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT JON.

HE MIGHT EVEN BE COOLER THAN ME. AND THOSE ARE BIG WORDS FROM ME.
YOU'RE BOTH COOL, CONNER. YOU AND JON WOULD GET ALONG WELL.
I DON'T KNOW, CLARK...I DON'T THINK I'M READY TO TALK TO A REAL SUPERBOY.
HEY. YOU ARE A REAL SUPERBOY.
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEANT...
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEANT, AND I DIDN'T LIKE WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT YOURSELF.
YOU WEAR THAT S-SHIELD PROUDLY. THE SHIELD OF FAMILY. THAT ALONE MAKES YOU MY FAMILY.
"AND I WILL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, EVEN FROM YOURSELF."
ARNIE, LISTEN...
...THAT GUY THERE...THE ONE WHO PROTECTED YOU...HE'S A FAMILY MEMBER OF MINE.
AND NOW WE NEED TO PROTECT HIM.
I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED. I WAS SCARED FOR YOU ALL DAY.
BUT WE'RE TOGETHER NOW...AND WE NEED TO BE THERE FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
RUMF.

SUPERMAN-- CUT THE JUICE!
HRANG! HRANG! HRANG!
WHAM
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MAN... YOU DID GREAT!
AND YOU LOOK WAY COOLER USING ELECTRIC POWERS THAN YOUR DAD DID.
THANKS, SUPERBOY... WHAT'S NEXT?
WE'RE GOING TO SURRENDER.
WHAT?!
TRUST ME... WE'RE DOING IT ON MY TERMS.
ARNIE, OFF!
ARNIE, HERE.
KRAKOOOM
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, ARNIE.
NICE WORK, FELLAS.
HRUMP!
AS FOR YOU, GUN-DUMMIES.
OH, THAT'S SO GOOD!
I'VE GOT SOME THINGS I WANT TO SAY ON BEHALF OF MY GUY ARNIE.

ONE TOUGH CONVERSATION LATER...
THEY'RE GOING TO LET ME VISIT ARNIE EVERY FEW WEEKS AT HIS NEW FACILITY.
AND THEY'RE GOING TO GIVE ME SOME KIND OF PET CAM SO I CAN CHECK ON HIM.
THAT WAS A TOUGH CALL, CONNER. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M ALL RIGHT, BUT YOU WERE RIGHT *RIGHT.*
I GOT MAD AT YOU BUT I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF ARNIE. I CAN'T BE HIS HOME.
I WISH YOU HAD BEEN RIGHT AND ARNIE WAS ONE OF BENDIX'S MUTATED HUMANS...AT LEAST HE'D HAVE A LIFE TO GO BACK TOO. WHEN YOU'RE MADE IN A LAB YOU DON'T HAVE PEOPLE...
...CONNER, YOU HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE. *ME INCLUDED.*
YEAH...I KNOW. AND I'M *GRATEFUL* BECAUSE I REMEMBER AT THE START WHEN I DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE.
THANK YOU FOR TODAY, JON.
YOU PROBABLY NEED TO GET HOME, BUT I SET UP CAMP NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE.
I'VE GOT EXTRA GEAR FOR ONE MORE PERSON, MAYBE WE CAN HANG OUT YOU KNOW...FOR YOUR DAD.
HE WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE IT!
I LOVE THE GUY BUT HE CAN REALLY DIG INTO YOU PRETTY DEEP!
WE CAN EXCHANGE STORIES ABOUT IT!
END

VENICE BEACH, CALIFORNIA.
THERE YOU GO. ENJOY!
OH, I CAN ASSURE YOU, I WILL.
OCEAN TREATS
MMEEEEEEEEE!
ARRRGH!
HELP! PLEASE HELP!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

THIS IS A JOB FOR...
SUPERGIRL!
VWOOOSH
WHOA!
UNNGH!
EVERYONE! MOVE! QUICKLY! WHILE I CAN STILL HOLD IT!
THIS IS NOT THE WAY TODAY WAS SUPPOSED TO
GOOOOO...

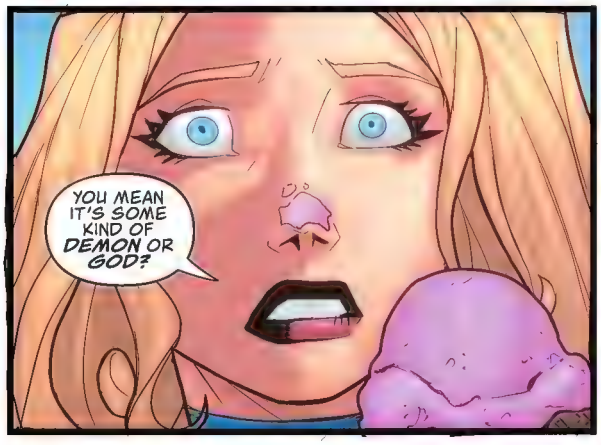
ZZZOOSH
SKREEEEK
I,
ONLY,
WANTED.
AN ICE CREAM!
THUD

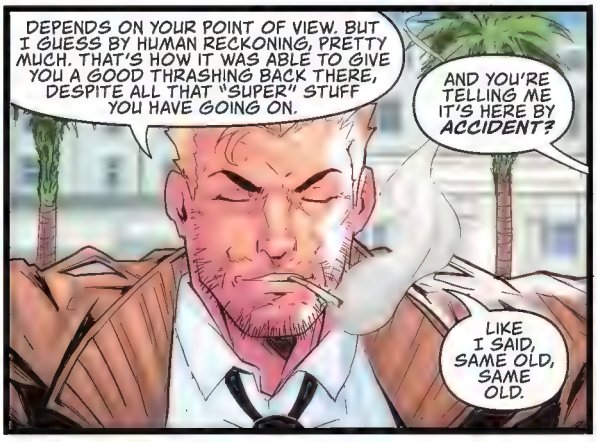
OUCH.
UNGH!
WELL, THANKS FOR THAT, LOVE. YOU JUST PROVED MY THEORY WAS RIGHT.
WHAT THEORY?
THAT NOT EVEN A KRYPTONIAN CAN BEAT THAT THING IN A STRAIGHT FIGHT.
AND YOU ARE?
JOHN CONSTANTINE. SORCERER, NONSMOKER, LEGENDARY LOVER OF WOMEN. AND ONLY ONE OF THOSE THINGS ISN'T TRUE.
AND YOU, SUPERGIRL? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD DO WITH AN ICE CREAM.

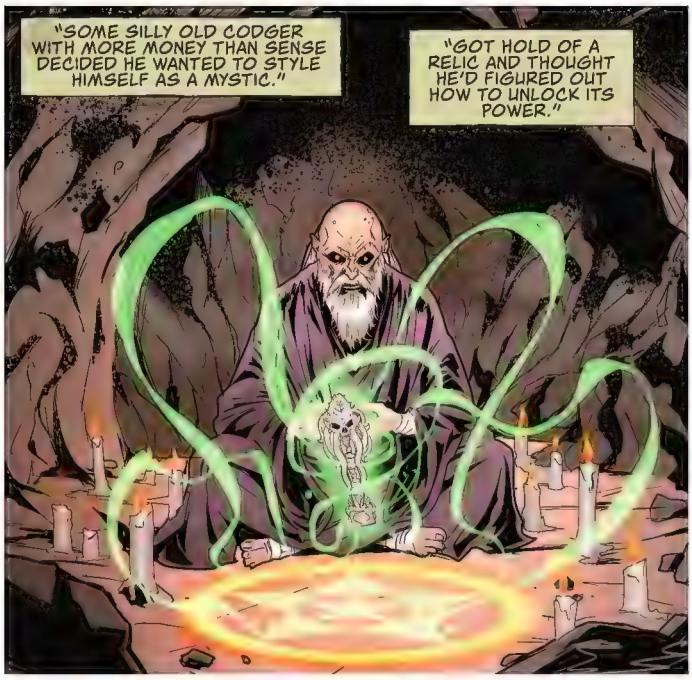
THE WEATHER HERE'S ABOMINABLE.
YOU ARE WEARING A TRENCH COAT IN EIGHTY-DEGREE HEAT.
WE ALL HAVE OUR COSTUMES, LOVE. MINE'S JUST A LITTLE LESS... BLUE.
AND BESIDES...

"...I WAS TALKING LITERALLY."

WHAT IS THAT THING?
ETHRAK THE DEVOURER, OR ISH'THÂR'AK, TO USE ITS NATIVE TONGUE. ME, I LIKE TO CALL IT CHOMPY.
IT'S AN ELDRITCH ENTITY FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION, SUMMONED HERE BY ACCIDENT AND INTENT ON CONSUMING THE WORLD. YOU KNOW THE REST. TALE AS OLD AS TIME. OLDER, IN FACT.


YOU MEAN IT'S SOME KIND OF DEMON OR GOD?

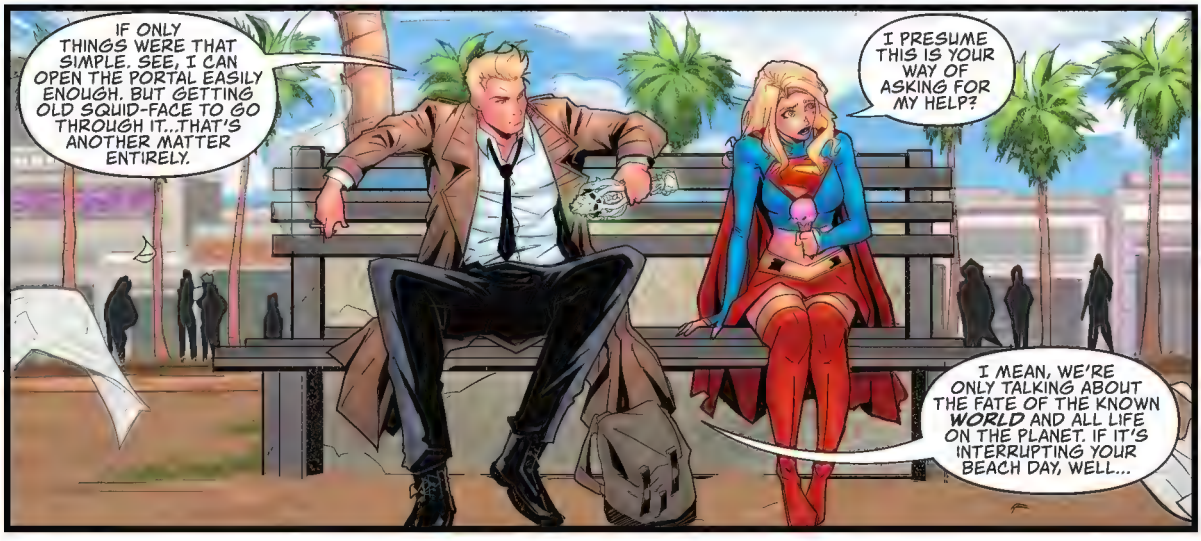

DEPENDS ON YOUR POINT OF VIEW. BUT I GUESS BY HUMAN RECKONING, PRETTY MUCH. THAT'S HOW IT WAS ABLE TO GIVE YOU A GOOD THRASHING BACK THERE, DESPITE ALL THAT "SUPER" STUFF YOU HAVE GOING ON.
AND YOU'RE TELLING ME IT'S HERE BY ACCIDENT?
LIKE I SAID, SAME OLD, SAME OLD.


"SOME SILLY OLD CODGER WITH MORE MONEY THAN SENSE DECIDED HE WANTED TO STYLE HIMSELF AS A MYSTIC."
"GOT HOLD OF A RELIC AND THOUGHT HE'D FIGURED OUT HOW TO UNLOCK ITS POWER."

"THING IS, HE ONLY WENT AND DID IT.
"PROBLEM WAS--HE HAD NO IDEA HOW TO CONTROL WHAT HE MANAGED TO UNLEASH."

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
BEST WE DON'T MENTION THAT.
ANYWAY--I MANAGED TO LAY MY HANDS ON THE RELIC IN QUESTION.

:AHEM:
DON'T STARE, LOVE. IT'S EMBARRASSING.
SO, YOU CAN SEND THIS ETHRAK BACK TO WHERE IT CAME FROM?


IF ONLY THINGS WERE THAT SIMPLE. SEE, I CAN OPEN THE PORTAL EASILY ENOUGH. BUT GETTING OLD SQUID-FACE TO GO THROUGH IT...THAT'S ANOTHER MATTER ENTIRELY.
I PRESUME THIS IS YOUR WAY OF ASKING FOR MY HELP?
I MEAN, WE'RE ONLY TALKING ABOUT THE FATE OF THE KNOWN WORLD AND ALL LIFE ON THE PLANET. IF IT'S INTERRUPTING YOUR BEACH DAY, WELL...

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?
I'LL MAKE SURE THERE'S AN OPEN GOAL, AND YOU TAKE THE PENALTY KICK.
WHAT?
:SIGH:
I'LL OPEN THE PORTAL UNDER THE WATER, AND YOU FIND A WAY TO PUSH ETHRAK THROUGH.
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THAT?
I DID!
WHOOOSH
WHOOOSH
WHOOOSH

SWOOOSH
GURGLE
SKREEEEEEE
EEEEEEEE

I THINK YOU COULD SAY THAT WAS A SUCCESSFUL PENALTY KICK..
RIGHT TO THE BACK OF THE NET.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
SADLY, YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST PERSON TO SAY THAT.
SO, YOU'LL BE GETTING BACK TO YOUR BEACH DAY NOW THAT'S OVER WITH?
TO BE HONEST, I THINK I'M DONE WITH THE BEACH FOR A WHILE. WASN'T QUITE THE RELAXING DAY I HAD PLANNED, WHAT WITH THE ANCIENT GOD TRYING TO EAT ME AND ALL THAT.
WELL, OLD ETHRAK ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO'S WORKED UP *QUITE* THE APPETITE.
NOT SURE WHY, BUT SOMETHING'S GIVEN ME THE MOST TERRIBLE CRAVING FOR *FRESH CALAMARI*...
SOMETHING IN THE WATER
GEORGE MANN WRITER
TRAVIS MERCER ARTIST
ANDREW DALHOUSE COLORS
TROY PETERI LETTERS
MICHAEL MCCALISTER COVER
SUPERGIRL BASED ON THE CHARACTERS CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

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METROPOLIS ARENA
AVENUE OF TOMORROW
AUGUST 9
GOTHAM FORUM
MURPHY AVENUE
AUGUST 11
STAR CITY CENTER
LEE AVE AND 61ST STREET
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